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Japan

Reports on U.S.-Japan Trade Talks Continue

'No Major Progress' Made

OW1407072994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0710 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Japan and the United States made "no major progress" Thursday [14 July] in their subcabinet- level framework talks on automobile trade, a senior Japanese trade official said.

Hideaki Kumano, vice minister of international trade and industry, told reporters the two countries will continue discussions on the subject.

Disagreement had been reported in the bilateral talks on the proposed "objective criteria" for measuring the degree of Japan's market openness.

Kumano also said his ministry is conducting a survey on the effects of the yen's recent appreciation against the U.S. dollar on Japan's small businesses.

The ministry may work out measures after next week to deal with the yen's appreciation if the survey shows such measures are required, he said.

Agreed Talks Facing 'Difficulties'

OW1407095594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0944 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Japanese and U.S. negotiators agreed Thursday [14 July] at the subcabinet-level "framework" talks on automobile trade that bilateral negotiations on the issue are encountering difficulties, officials said.

The talks were attended by U.S. Undersecretary of Commerce Jeffrey Garten and Sozaburo Okamatsu, vice minister for international affairs at Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

The talks centered on the proposed "objective criteria" for measuring the degree of Japan's market openness, the officials said.

The negotiators agreed that progress in the talks has not been fast enough and more working-and subcabinet-level talks be held before the end of the month to coordinate opinions, the officials said.

No deadline has been set for agreement in the talks, but under the revived Super 301 Trade Law, Washington is expected to identify by the end of September countries maintaining trade barriers against its exports, moving to impose punitive tariffs if bilateral negotiations fail to remove such barriers.

Semiconductor Talks on 26 Jul

OW1407113394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1113 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Japan and the United States will hold follow-up talks on a bilateral agreement on the share of foreign-made semiconductors in Washington on July 26, trade officials said Thursday [14 July].

The talks will be held in accordance with an earlier agreement to review the bilateral accord of August 1991 after three years.

At the meeting, the two countries will probably agree to maintain the agreement until it expires in 1996, the officials said.

The U.S. expressed its willingness to keep the agreement in June, they said. The Japanese side also plans to agree to its maintenance as the accord has contributed to expansion of the foreign share of the Japanese microchip market, they added.

UN To Increase Annual Contribution From Japan

OW1407130894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1222 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Japan's annual contribution to the United Nations will increase from the present 12.45 percent of the world organization's budget to the mid-15 percent range for the next three years, Foreign Ministry sources said Thursday [14 July].

The sources said the U.N. will formally announce the increase in the near future. The increase is for a fixed period of three years.

The United States would remain the main contributor, with its payment unchanged at the maximum 25 percent of the budget.

Together, the two nations would account for more than 40 percent of the budget.

The same sources said Germany, the third largest contributor, is likely to have its contribution raised from the present 8 percent to 9 percent.

The sources said the increase is mainly due to the increased strength of the yen over recent years which has inflated the nation's gross national product (GNP) when converted into dollars.

In 1994, Japan's payment to the U.N. totals some 126 million dollars, but the next increase will raise this by more than 30 million dollars a year.

The U.N. normally budgets for two year periods with the current period covering 1993 and 1994.

The contributions of member countries are reviewed every three years.

The U.N. previously assessed contributions based on the GNP of a country's previous decade, but this was altered in order to ease the burden on the countries of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Instead, the U.N. will now use as its basis for assessment the average GNP over the five years between 1988 and 1992.

Sakigake Leader Urges Further Debate on UN Seat

OW1407140594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—The question of whether Japan should press for permanent membership of the U.N. Security Council requires more debate before reaching any conclusion, a senior member of the ruling coalition new party Sakigake [Harbinger] said Thursday [14 July].

Shusei Tanaka, the party's No. 2 leader, proposed that a private organ of inquiry be set up under Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama to thoroughly weigh the pros and cons of the matter.

He criticized the Foreign Ministry bureaucracy for "running alone" with the issue without awaiting a public consensus.

Tanaka said he personally does not favor Japan taking on the duties of a permanent Security Council member. "It would be no loss," he said. "We can make our international contributions in other ways."

He said there has been insufficient domestic debate about such things as the concrete obligations of permanent membership of the council, including military responsibilities.

At present, the 15-member Security Council includes five permanent members—Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States.

Japan and Germany have expressed hopes of gaining permanent membership in the Security Council.

A U.N. working group is expected to issue a report on the restructuring and strengthening of the U.N. and the Security Council in September.

G-7 Policy Coordination To Halt Yen Rise Urged

OW1407094294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0935 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said Thursday policy coordination among the major economies are a more important and effective means to change the tide in the currency markets than joint market intervention.

In a meeting with Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), Murayama said the high yen is undesirable and will rob the economy of chances for recovery, according to Keidanren officials.

"To stabilize foreign exchange rates, it is important that savings and investments be better balanced in each country. The United States needs to strive to make its finances more sound," he was quoted as saying.

The premier cast doubts over the effectiveness of concerted intervention among major industrialized nations. "There are giant speculative forces in the market. It would be impossible for intervention to settle every problem," he said, according to the officials.

Murayama said the U.S. has no desire for a weak dollar, quoting President Bill Clinton's remarks during their recent one-on-one meeting in Naples calling for the need to restore confidence in the country.

Toyoda said corporate managers are "almost screaming" over the yen's appreciation.

Keidanren estimates, he said, show that if the yen rises to 98 yen from 115, it would reduce economic growth by 0.9 percent and corporate earnings by 3.9 percent.

Toyoda suggested the government compile an economic stimulus budget incorporating the extended tax cuts and boosted public works spending for the next fiscal year, draft another surplus-cutting program and study a more stable currency system, the officials said.

Honda Said Planning To Halve Exports to U.S.

OW1407022594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0155 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Honda Motor Co. is planning to halve U.S.-bound exports from 1993 levels to some 150,000 units by 1999, while raising U.S. production, a company official said Thursday [14 July].

The automaker has adopted a new long-term business plan in view of the yen's latest record advance against the dollar—which saw the dollar fall below 100 yen and makes it difficult to profit on exports, the official said.

The new business plan is to be made public as early as next week.

It also calls for a near quadrupling of exports from the United States to some 150,000 units by 1999 from some 40,000 units in 1993 to balance bilateral auto trade, the official said.

Honda now runs two plants in North America, one in the United States and the other in Canada. The two plants will turn out some 590,000 units, a level which is close to their manufacturing capacity.

Governors Meet Over Reduction of U.S. Bases

OW1407103494 Tokyo KYODO in English 1013 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Naha, Japan, July 14 KYODO—The governors of 14 prefectures home to U.S. bases met in Naha, Okinawa Prefecture, Thursday [14 July] to discuss measures to speed up the return of land used by U.S. forces stationed in Japan.

The governors agreed to urge the government to work out a special law concerning the use of returned base properties.

Residents who own land within bases up for return should be given subsidies to facilitate the development of their properties for other than military purposes, they said.

They voiced these expectations in a letter handed to representatives from the Foreign Ministry and the Defense Facilities Administration Agency, who were also present at the meeting.

The meeting also adopted resolutions pledging to improve living conditions for residents living near the bases including noise reduction.

The governors called for a ban on military flights at night and during holidays and for stricter safety measures.

The governors' conference has been held annually in Tokyo since 1971. However, this year's meeting was held in Naha on request from Okinawa to focus attention on the fact that 75 percent of all U.S. bases are located in Japan's southernmost prefecture.

Australia Holds Seminar To Promote Rice Sales

OW1407083594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0753 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—The Australian Government held a "rice seminar" in Tokyo on Thursday [14 July] to promote sales of Australian rice in Japan.

Japanese rice dealers and food manufacturers were invited to the event held at the Australian Embassy.

Australian Trade Minister Bob McMullan, in a speech at the seminar, expressed hope that there will be fair competition in the marketing of rice in Japan.

McMullan later told reporters that Australia is capable of supplying half the minimum rice imports of 400,000 tons Japan has promised for fiscal 1995, which starts next April 1.

Japan is expected to adopt country-by-country quotas for rice imports after ratifying the Uruguay Round global trade accord reached last year.

Japan agreed at the Uruguay round talks to partially open its rice market.

Japan Edition of SRV Business Magazine To Debut

OW1407091294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0843 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Fukuoka, July 14 KYODO—A Japanese business consulting company will publish a Japanese edition of a Vietnamese business magazine, beginning next month, company officials said Thursday [14 July].

Vietnam Intelligence of Business Inc., based in this southern Japan city, has agreed with the Vietnamese Chamber of Commerce and Industry to publish the Japanese edition of DOANH NGHIEP, the chamber's biweekly magazine, the officials said.

They said the magazine carries the latest information on Vietnamese industries, especially on employment and foreign investments, and should be helpful to Japanese companies hoping to enter the Vietnamese market.

Tokyo To Lend Malaysia Fund To Build Airport

OW1407130994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1017 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—The Japanese Government will lend Malaysia 61.5 billion yen to construct a new airport near Kuala Lumpur, government officials said Thursday [14 July].

The Sepang Airport will be one of the largest airports in Asia when it opens in January 1998.

Located 50 kilometers south of Kuala Lumpur, it will be five times as large as the New Kansai International Airport, opening near Osaka in September, and almost four times larger than the Tokyo International Airport at Narita.

The loan will be used for the construction of the terminal building.

The interest rate on the 25-year loan is set at 3 percent per annum, with a seven-year grace period.

The officials said the 61.5 billion yen loan is the largest airport construction loan ever granted by Japan, surpassing the 35 billion yen extended to expand the Bangkok Airport.

The government will finalize the decision on Friday, they said.

MOFA Announces Grant for Bangladesh

OW1407061494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0547 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Japan will grant Bangladesh 7.99 billion yen as a debt-relief measure to help it promote economic development and improve public welfare, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs [MOFA] said Thursday [14 July].

Government officials from Japan and Bangladesh exchanged documents on the grant in Dhaka earlier in the day, the ministry said.

The latest assistance brings the total Japanese aid to Bangladesh in fiscal 1994 to 10.41 billion yen.

The grant-in-aid represents principal and interest on Official Development Assistance (ODA) loans whose repayment were due in the latter half of fiscal 1993.

The money will be used to purchase goods necessary to develop the economy and to improve public welfare, the ministry said.

Hokkaido, Sakhalin To Mediate Fishing Dispute

OW1407130594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1005 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Yuzhno Sakhalinsk, Russia, July 14 KYODO—The Hokkaido and Sakhalin Governments have agreed to set up within the year a joint body to cooperate over fishing in waters off four disputed islands to Japan's north, Hokkaido Gov. Takahiro Yokomichi said Thursday [14 July].

Yokomichi told a joint press conference in Sakhalin with the Sakhalin provincial government that he hopes to dispatch Hokkaido Government officials to the province in August or September to organize the setting up of the joint body.

The body, agreed on in talks with Sakhalin Gov. Yevgeniy Krasnoyarov, would also mediate fishing disputes near the islands of Shikotan, Kunashiri, Etorofu and the Habomai Group of islets, all of which were formerly Japanese territory, but which the former Soviet Union seized at the end of World War II.

The islands lie off the coast of Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

Yokomichi said discussions aimed at setting up the joint body should proceed in parallel with talks between officials from Nemuro and other cities in Hokkaido which have close dealings with Russia and their counterparts in the Russian province.

Russia has voiced protests over border violations by Japanese fishing boats in the area.

The island dispute has prevented Russia and Japan from ever concluding a peace treaty.

The Russian official said he considers the islands to be Russian but stressed that he welcomes the establishment of joint fisheries ventures.

He said some 18 billion rubles are earmarked for investment in the Kuriles, the island chain which stretches from Hokkaido to the Kamchatka peninsula and includes the disputed islands.

Yokomichi also said he will personally convey to the Japanese Government the wish of former Sakhalin Gov. Valentin Fedorov for exchanges of information between Japanese and Russian law enforcement authorities about the activities of criminal gangs operating in both countries.

After the press conference, Yokomichi flew to Muroran in Hokkaido.

Panel Asked To Recommend Future Defense Policy

OW1307075994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama on Wednesday [13 July] requested an advisory panel to come up with concrete recommendations on Japan's future defense policy, government officials said.

During the council's meeting at his official residence, Murayama said, "I want you to demonstrate the direction which Japan's defense policy should follow in coming years."

Murayama promised he will try to use the panel's recommendations to review the overall defense program set up in 1976, officials the said.

The government has already proposed downsizing the Self-Defense Forces following a new international trend toward disarmament in the wake of the end of the Cold War.

Murayama told the group, "although the world is generally heading toward disarmament, we are not sure what system the world is going to build to defend its security amid the proliferation of regional military conflicts."

The panel, headed by Hirotaro Higuchi, president of ASAHI Breweries Ltd., will submit its recommendations to Murayama by the end of July, the officials said.

Panel To Urge Government To Scale Down Military

OW1307135594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1323 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—An advisory body on defense policy will soon propose a major reduction in Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to bring the military into conformity with post-Cold War requirements, panel sources said in disclosing the framework of a draft proposal Wednesday [13 July].

The draft proposal of the advisory panel to the prime minister calls for a major force reduction from the current level of 270,000 and a change in defense strategy from that pursued during the Cold War.

However, the draft does not specify numbers.

After having long focused on strengthening their ability to repel an attack in the North from what used to be the Soviet Union, the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) should boost preparedness to counter threats from a multiplicity of possible aggressors, the advisory body says.

To this end, the SDF should be made more "compact and efficient" and should acquire increased mobility.

In the draft, the panel also calls for enhanced threat detection capabilities, including the introduction of more aircraft equipped with Airborne Early Warning and Control Systems (AWACS).

The document notes concern over North Korea's development of ballistic missiles that could reach Japan.

The proposal, to be presented to the prime minister, is expected to touch on the proposed Theater Missile Defense (TMD) concept that is now under consideration within the government.

Earlier the same day, Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama told the group he will try to use the panel's recommendations to review the overall defense program set up in 1976.

The panel, headed by Hirotaro Higuchi, president of ASAHI Breweries Ltd., will submit its recommendations to Murayama by the end of July, according to government officials.

Tokyo To Cut Frequency of Emperor's Overseas Trips

OW1407142894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1348 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—The Imperial Household Agency said Thursday [14 July] it is considering reducing by more than half the frequency of overseas trips by Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko.

Shoichi Fujimori, grand steward of the Imperial Household, told a news conference the imperial couple "does not have to go (abroad) every year."

Since 1991, the couple has paid official visits to foreign countries twice a year.

Fujimori said his agency wants to soften the "fairly hard" schedule of the couple because they have been asked by the government to visit a total of 10 countries over the past four years.

"I think it is necessary to carefully consider the issue of the emperor's visits to foreign countries...," Fujimori said.

The emperor and empress, who visited the United States in June, plan to visit France and Spain in October.

Fujimori said that if the couple made a practice of visiting foreign countries twice a year, it would force them and the agency to be constantly making preparations, since the planning of their travels requires careful preparations from well in advance.

Fujimori also said the agency will bolster its inter-agency coordination to effect more efficient handling of mass media coverage of the royal family.

All of Fujimori's remarks at the regular news conference were stated openly, contrary to the longstanding practice of having a grand steward state some of his remarks off the record.

Fujimori said the agency wants to coordinate its response to mass media coverage of the royal family by fully employing the agency's newly installed bureau for dealing with the media.

The change in the agency's public relations policy was prompted after the empress collapsed and temporarily lost her speech last year following a string of allegations in certain media that she is a domineering figure in the palace, palace sources said.

Kubo Considers Offer of SDPJ Acting Chairmanship

OW1407063894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0600 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said Thursday [14 July] he has asked Wataru Kubo, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), to temporarily serve as acting SDP chairman to help bring harmony to the divisive party.

"I asked him. I want the SDP to fully back the administration," Murayama told reporters at his official residence. But Kubo said at a party meeting Thursday morning that he needs time to think about Murayama's request, SDP officials said, adding the party is postponing a decision on the acting chairmanship.

At a subsequent meeting of the party's central executive committee, Kubo told his colleagues the matter is not on Thursday's agenda, party sources said.

Kubo also hinted that he is willing to address the issue next week or later, the sources added.

The SDP sources said Kubo is tilting toward accepting the offer but is cautious about doing so because some SDP members sympathetic to him did not vote for Murayama in the June 29 Diet election for prime minister.

Steering, Budget Committee Chairmen Named

OW1407091394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0806 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—Senior members of the House of Representatives decided Thursday [14 July] to pick Shozaburo Nakamura of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) as chairman of the lower house steering committee, parliamentary sources said.

Kanju Sato of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) was chosen as chairman of the lower house budget committee, they said.

Lower house Speaker Takako Doi is expected to officially endorse the nominations at a lower house plenary session next Monday, the sources said.

Nakamura, 59, has served as head of the Environment Agency and the 52-year-old Sato as home affairs minister.

Nakamura is replacing Keiwa Okuda of Shinseito [Harbinger], an opposition party, and Sato is succeeding Tsuruo Yamaguchi of the SDP, they said.

Yamaguchi became chief of the Management and Coordination Agency in late June.

Introduction of Environment Tax Considered

OW1407022694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0145 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—The Environment Agency will set up an in-house panel next month to study the introduction of an environment tax aimed at reducing emissions of gases produced by burning fossil fuels, agency sources said Thursday [14 July].

The advisory panel to the director of the agency's Planning and Coordination Bureau will study the effects on the economy and on carbon dioxide emissions of a possible environment tax imposed on oil and other fossil fuels, they said.

The panel, to be chaired by Prof. Hiromitsu Ishi of Hitotsubashi University, will also discuss whether the tax should also be imposed on electricity generated by nuclear power plants, and ways to collect the tax and at what rate it should be set.

A Finance Ministry institute earlier proposed to introduce an indirect environment tax, saying it could contribute to protecting the environment.

Introduction of the new tax, however, is likely to meet strong opposition from business circles.

The Netherlands and Sweden have introduced similar taxes to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Finance Minister Discusses State of Economy

OW1407080994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0747 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 14 KYODO—The Japanese economy is heading toward a recovery, and the government's official monthly report in July is expected to paint a brighter picture than before, Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura said Thursday.

As for the yen's recent sharp rise posing a major threat to the recovering economy, Takemura pointed to the agreement by Group of Seven (G-7) finance ministers in Naples last weekend to cooperate to stem the dollar's plunge.

Speaking at a private seminar in Tokyo, he cited rumors of an imminent U.S. interest rate hike as being behind Thursday's rebound of the dollar against the yen, and described the currency movements on Wednesday and Thursday as "calm."

But Takemura said the G-7 finance heads "did not discuss much" concerning Japan's credit policy.

As to the permanent tax cuts promised by Japan in Naples, Takemura said the government and coalition parties have no intention of separating discussions on the tax cuts and an offsetting consumption tax hike.

Calling for an early conclusion of the tax reform package, Takemura reserved his comments on whether separate bills will be introduced for the proposed tax cuts and a consumption tax increase, or they will be dealt with by one bill.

The finance minister said "the economy is gradually showing signs of recovery" although he is still unsure if it has already started recovering.

He said "brighter wording" is likely to be used in the July economic report slated for release Friday by the Economic Planning Agency.

Takemura said bright spots are spreading in personal consumption, and housing construction remains firm.

Also citing such new rosy signs as buoyant sales of air conditioners and beer compared with the cool and wet summer last year, he said, "this year will not be like last year."

The economy suffered a setback last summer due to the yen's sharp rise and unusual weather.

Pointing to the yen's rise as the major concern, Takemura said, "we will make efforts through international cooperation mainly by the G-7 nations."

During the G-7 summit in Naples, the finance ministers spent most of the time discussing the currency issue, and announced orally in a special statement that they reaffirm cooperation to stem the dollar's "undesirable and unjustified" fall which is not in line with economic fundamentals, Takemura said.

The dollar-yen rates were calm over the past two days, with the dollar even rebounding Thursday on rumors that the U.S. would tighten its credit soon, Takemura said.

Asked if a further rate cut by Japan came up as a measure to prop up the dollar against the yen, Takemura said the G-7 finance ministers "did not discuss it much." He stressed that Japan's discount rate is already at a record low 1.75 percent.

On the tax reform, Takemura said the new coalition government does not intend to put off thorny discussions of a tax hike.

"We don't intend to discuss it for one or two years although it may take three months or half a year," Takemura said, calling for a conclusion by the end of the year.

Japan promised at the Naples summit to continue the 6.2 trillion yen tax cuts, including 5.45 trillion yen in income and resident taxes, of this year at roughly the same annual scale in future.

But misunderstanding arose during the summit, with the U.S. saying that Japan vowed to leave aside an offsetting tax hike until the economy recovers, and the Japanese side denying such a promise was made and stressing the offer was only to leave a time lag between tax cuts and a tax hike.

Takemura said in recent press conferences that tax cuts and how to finance them, including a tax hike, must be discussed together in parallel with talks on administrative and fiscal overhauls to cut back government spending.

But he has noted that political decision is necessary over the scale and timing of the tax hike.

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MITI Panel To Study High-Tech Fibers

OW1307132094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1205 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) has set up a panel to study future generation high-tech fibers that could carry electronic and chemical data, officials said Wednesday [13 July].

Such fibers might be able to re-create human nerve and muscle functions, they said.

The panel, established on July 7, will also study possibilities of applying existing fibers in medical treatment such as for cancer. It will compile a report by March.

Toshiba Develops Device To Weed Out Chip Defects

OW1307092694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0748 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—Major Japanese electronics firm Toshiba Corp. said Wednesday [13 July] it has developed an automated inspection device that detects minute defects in mass produced computer chips.

The Tokyo-based company said the new device developed for photolithographic masks can be used in mass production of semiconductors to find defects such as circuit breaks, pinholes, impurities, protrusions as well as edge and corner defects.

The new machine, MC-100, is expected to be used in the mass production of 64-megabit dynamic random access memory (DRAM) chips and later generations of semiconductors, the company said.

In the process, circuit patterns are etched on silicon wafers by exposing them to ultraviolet light, and the image from the mask is reduced by a lens and directed to the photosensitive resist layer that coats the silicon wafer, the firm said. Any defect in the mask pattern results in flaws in the design on the wafer and the final integrated circuit.

The company said the new machine will be used in its semiconductor manufacturing line, and its subsidiary, Toshiba Machine Co., will accept orders for the machine starting later this year.

Business Leaders Discuss Multimedia Industry

OW1307143994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1140 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Karuizawa, Japan, July 13 KYODO—Business leaders attending a four-day seminar at this summer resort in Nagano Prefecture discussed Wednesday [13 July] measures to foster the next-generation industry and future prospects of the multimedia age, organizers said.

They said the attendants agreed that the multimedia industry could become Japan's new leading industry, replacing automobile and electronics industries which spearheaded Japan's economic growth in the postwar period.

Junichiro Miyazu, vice president of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT), told the session that multimedia will create huge business opportunities as it develops, suggesting it could become a savior of the domestic industry, they said.

Yasuo Kimura, a director of Sumitomo Corp. which promotes the cable television industry, stressed the importance of the multimedia system in the age of multichannel, information service, they said.

Noboru Makino, an adviser of the Mitsubishi Research Institute, expressed doubt, however, about the expansion of the optical fiber network to households.

Even if it develops in the future, the size of the multimedia market will be the same as the present automobile industry, he said.

The seminar opened Tuesday under the auspices of the Japan Productivity Center for Socio-Economic Development which was formed through a merger between the Japan Productivity Center and the Social and Economic Congress of Japan.

Millions of Unemployed Expected by 2000

OW1307141194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1043 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 13 KYODO—The shifting of production bases overseas by Japanese companies as a result of a strong yen will eliminate 3.56 million jobs in Japan by the year 2000, a private think tank predicted in a report released Wednesday [13 July].

Japan research institute Ltd., affiliated with Sumitomo Bank, said the recent sharp rise in the value of the yen against the U.S. dollar will prompt Japanese manufacturers to shift their plants overseas, increasing the ratio of overseas production to nearly 10 percent in 1998 from 6.4 percent in 1993.

The think tank also said Japanese companies will be forced to cut the number of workers in an effort to reduce labor costs to cope with cheaper imports.

It estimates Japan's unemployment rate will jump to 6 percent or more in 2000 from the current 2 percent level, with economic growth slowing to 1.4 percent in that year.

To avoid such a hollowing out of the domestic economy, the think tank calls for further deregulation to expand domestic demand and to create job opportunities.

Overhaul of Social Infrastructure Recommended

OW1207034694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0333 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—Japan must overhaul its aging social infrastructure in the early 21st century, and must seek ways to reduce related construction costs, the Construction Ministry said in an annual report released Tuesday [12 July].

The white paper on national land construction said Japan's existing social infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, built during the period of high economic growth in the 1960s, will need to be replaced by early next century.

The report projected that the combined costs of renewal, maintenance and repair for this social infrastructure will increase to 50 percent of total public works investment by the year 2020. In 1990 such costs amounted to only 19 percent of total public works expenditures.

More durable materials should be used at the early stages of infrastructure construction projects, and construction methods that facilitate easier maintenance and repair should be adopted, as ways of reducing overall costs, the paper recommended.

The white paper also noted it will become more difficult to increase public investment in the future as a result of the aging of the population.

The report called for more effective utilization of idle land, including the [word indistinct] of former factories, as a means to improve housing conditions.

It also expressed concern over possible sharp population decreases in rural areas, and proposed boosting interregion exchanges through the construction of highway networks and the promotion of provincial "core" cities.

North Korea

UN Envoy on U.S., Nuclear Policy, Kim-Chong-il

OW1407014894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0130 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] New York, July 13 KYODO—North Korea's nuclear policy and its policy toward the United States will remain unchanged under the new regime following the death of President Kim Il-song, a senior official at the North Korean UN mission in New York said Wednesday [13 July].

The official, who asked not to be identified, said commitments made by the late president to former U.S. President Jimmy Carter are valid under the new regime.

The late North Korean leader told Carter, who visited Pyongyang in June to seek a peaceful solution to the nuclear standoff, North Korea would freeze its nuclear program on condition that the U.S. returns to the negotiating table for high-level bilateral talks.

Kim Il-song also called on the U.S. to provide it with technology for a light-water nuclear reactor, which produces less plutonium than the North's graphite-moderated reactor.

The third round of high-level talks between North Korea and the U.S. resumed in Geneva on Friday after one-year hiatus but was suspended the following day after Kim's death was announced.

The official said informal discussions between the two countries to resume the third round of talks will start next week in New York after Sunday's funeral for Kim.

The official called Kim's eldest son and heir Kim Chong-il as "great leader," the reference previously given only to the late president.

He said he has no information Kim Chong-il was formally elected general secretary of the Korean Workers's Party succeeding his father.

Two 1992 Kim Chong-il Speeches Analyzed

OW1407062494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0611 GMT 14 Jul 94

[By Robert Saiget: "Kim Chong-il's Speeches Call for Strong Leadership"]

[Text] Beijing, July 14 KYODO—As the world waits for the official announcement that Kim Chong-il will replace his father as supreme leader of North Korea, two speeches show he is grooming himself to inherit his father's mantle.

In January and October 1992, Kim gave two speeches which were largely aimed at explaining the failure of socialism in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, but which also laid the ground rules for the succession of the North Korean leadership.

The two speeches, obtained by KYODO NEWS SERVICE, are believed to be the only speeches given and published by the younger Kim.

"The strengthening of (party) organizational and ideological foundations is particularly important when the inheritance of the party leadership is an issue because at that moment, class enemies at home and abroad...manoeuver more overtly than ever," Kim said in his 43-page speech "On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building."

"It is important to launch an effective struggle to preserve the unity and cohesion of the party, especially when one revolutionary generation is replaced by another, and when the situation, internal and external, is complex," he said.

Although North Korean watchers in Beijing doubt whether the younger Kim actually wrote the speeches, their contents are fundamentally in line with the preparations by Kim Il-song and the Korean Workers Party to pass the leadership on to the younger Kim, they said.

A main theme of the speech on party building is that the loss of a socialist "ideological consciousness" was the main reason why socialism failed in the Soviet Union, so therefore "it is essential to educate people and transform their ideology," Kim said.

Both speeches are liberally sprinkled with similar phrases which aim to justify the totalitarian nature of the Kim government, the observers said.

"A party which does not support its leader's ideology and guidance or does not inherit his cause cannot be called a revolutionary party," Kim said.

In an apparent reference to his father and perhaps a subtle reference to himself, Kim said, "leadership of the cause of socialism can be ensured only when an outstanding leader stands at the center."

Kim Chong-il Reportedly Suffers Epileptic Attacks

HK1407003094 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 14 Jul 94 p 1

[By Peter Seidlitz in Beijing]

[Text] North Korea's leader-designate, Kim Chong-il, 52, may be unable to play an active public role because he is an epileptic who suffers frequent attacks, according to a senior diplomat in Beijing.

The son of the late dictator Kim Il-song, has suffered epilepsy since he was 19, and frequent attacks of convulsions and cramps may help explain why he has lived in seclusion for years.

He has appeared only rarely in public and sees few visitors. His many speeches are read by narrators on television and radio, and when he appears on television his voice is generally not heard.

Newspaper reports have described Mr Kim as an unstable personality with an excessive lifestyle. Certainly he is overweight and a chain-smoker. But he is also a sick man, suffering from depression, the source said.

The information supplied by the source in Beijing is in line with comments by South Koreans and other officials, who have pointed to Mr Kim's long absences from the public eye and his sickly appearance as suggesting health problems.

Because of his epilepsy, Mr Kim is often in a semi-conscious state, and he spends many hours slumped in front of videos, the source said.

The source said Mr Kim—like his late father—has been treated by foreign doctors.

The elder Kim was given a heart pacemaker by Japanese doctors two years ago, consulted European doctors and even considered a trip to Europe.

The sickness of the new leader increases the risk of a family feud.

Mr Kim was officially appointed his father's successor in 1980, but is challenged by his step-brother Kim Pyong-il, the source in Beijing said.

Mr Kim Pyong-il is a former ambassador to Finland, and as a deputy minister is now in charge of foreign economic relations.

"The family challenge and the sickness will weaken Kim Chong-il's position. It will take a maximum of two years until the power struggle comes into the open", the diplomat said. [passage omitted cites AFP report from Seoul on titles assumed by Kim Chong-il]

Expressions of Support for Kim Chong-il Noted

Kim Il-song's 'Instruction' Noted

SK1307224894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509 GMT 13 Jul 94

["Oath of People Before Bier of the Leader"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—The Korean people are standing before the bier of the great leader President Kim Il-song with deepest grief.

They could hardly believe the sad news of his death that came like a bolt from the blue at noon on July 9. Now, standing before the bier of the president, they feel the real pang of the undeniable loss shooting through their hearts.

The people are wailing, beating the ground, seized with the remorse that he had passed away too early because their loyalty and filial piety were not sufficient, and are taking an oath to him, thinking of the intention and behest of the great leader.

"The revolutionary cause started by us in the thick forests of Mt. Paektu has not yet been accomplished. We have a long way to go in the revolution. If you are to carry forward and accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche through generations, you should remain faithful to Comrade Kim Chong-il who is leading the revolution and construction to victory with literary and military accomplishments and loyalty and filial piety. ... I firmly believe that as you have so far walked the road of revolution unswervingly, remaining faithful to me, so you will uphold Comrade Kim Chong-il with singlehearted loyalty and vigorously fight for socialist construction and national reunification in the future."

That is the most earnest instruction and behest left by the respected leader President Kim Il-song to the generations to come.

Feeling more keenly the preciousness of the leader in the grief at the loss of the respected leader, the people cherish deep in their hearts what a great place dear Comrade Kim Chong-il holds in the destiny of the country and the nation.

The only oath made by them, turning sorrow into strength of one thousand fold, is to hold Comrade Kim Chong-il in high esteem through all ages, adding to their loyalty and filial piety that they could not show fully to President Kim Il-song, and push ahead with national reunification and socialist construction with greater vigor.

We will remain loyal to the idea and leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

We will become rifles and bombs, wall and shield defending with death Comrade Kim Chong-il, the destiny of us all and the ever-victorious banner, and rally rock-firm around him in one mind.

That is the oath of the people, of the nation and of the party to the leader.

No matter which way the wind may blow and even if the world were to change a hundred times, no force can break the faith and will of Korea that has risen like a mountain turning bitterest sorrow in history into great strength.

Officers Uphold Kim Chong-il

SK1407094694 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2338 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] The death of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, is a great sadness for all the people of the entire nation. Today our country has been able to change into a powerful socialist country of self-dependence, self-support, and self-restraint defense because the great leader was highly upheld as the sun of the nation and because of his wise leadership.

Currently, our people and soldiers are overflowing with the firm determination to realize to the end the far-reaching plan that the great leader had desired when he was alive by highly upholding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Comrades Kim Il-chol, a general officer of the Korean People's Army, and Kim Si-hon, a general officer of the Korean People's Security Forces, say the following:

[Begin Kim Il-chol recording] Upon hearing the news of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song's death, our people and officers and men of the People's Army were overwhelmed with great sadness and grief. What words can express this sadness?

When looking back, the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song's life was devoted only to our fatherland and people. To embrace the happiest life in this world for our people, the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song visited plants, farms, and units of the People's Army while being exposed to snow, rain, and cold winds, and also walked along the endless roads to give on-the-spot guidance. He also devoted all his efforts for the fatherland's reunification. Therefore, our people and officers and men of the People's Army earnestly hoped again and again that the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song would rest comfortably, even if only for a minute, while he was alive. However, every time the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song said that he would rest after the fatherland's reunification, and he devoted all his energy to this. Thus, our people are currently suffering greater sadness.

If the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song had rested comfortably even for one day or one minute while he was alive, the hearts of our people and soldiers would not be so painful. I will highly uphold the respected and beloved supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il with loyalty and filial piety, and will exert all efforts to further strengthen and develop our naval force into an invincible chuche-oriented main force of the revolution and into an one-a-match-for-100 strong force as desired and intended by the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song when he was alive. [end recording]

[Begin Kim Si-hon recording] Today the officers and men of the People's Security Forces, who had faith in and followed the father, cannot compare with anything the grievous loss of the great leader. It is like a bolt from the blue.

I came to think about the proud course in which the People's Security Forces was strengthened and developed into an one-a-match-for-100 revolutionary force under the wise leadership of the fatherly leader. The fatherly leader personally called for me, who had nothing particular to do, to his side and gave precious teachings and took glorious commemorative pictures with me. He told me to preserve this picture generation after generation as a family heirloom. It seems that this is vividly resounding at this time.

Therefore, whether awake or asleep I spent the days with the earnest thought of when I will be able to once again see the leader's glory and the day I will meet the leader once again. How can I not grieve? It is very reassuring to me to think that there is the respected and beloved supreme comrade commander. Therefore, this sadness will be changed into strength and will, and I will be a loyal and dutiful person and gun in completing to the end the chuche revolutionary cause. [end recording]

ROK Citizens Laud Kim Chong-il

SK1407112694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—The workers, farmers, fishermen and urbanites of South Korea, upon hearing the sad news of the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song, express deep condolences and make up their mind to overcome the sorrow and fight more staunchly, according to the Seoul- based radio Voice on National Salvation quoting sources of the Seoul municipal committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front.

A certain Kim, working at the Kuro industrial complex in Kuro district, Seoul, said:

"The workers in the South eagerly waited for the day when they would see President Kim Il-song on the rostrum after reunification. Especially, they waited day and night for the day when he would come to Seoul after they heard news of expected summit talks.

"We are overwhelmed by sorrow at the sad news of his death. We will overcome the sorrow and fight to bring earlier the day when we will live in happiness under the government of the dear leader Kim Chong-il."

A farmer surnamed Pak, living in Phyongthaek County, Kyonggi Province, expressed his determination to overcome the bitter sorrow and uphold and follow the dear leader Kim Chong-il, the head of the nation.

Fishermen and urbanites in Inchon and Mapho district, Seoul, expressed the belief that the reunification will come earlier when they uphold the dear leader Kim Chong-il as the head of the nation just as they trusted and followed President Kim Il-song.

Literary Works Praise Kim Chong-il

SK1407102394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Poems and songs are being completed in succession by Korean writers.

The writers and composers depict Korea filled with bitterest grief and sorrow at the death of the great leader President Kim Il- song and the people who have risen up like a giant, overcoming the sorrow.

More than 100 works have been sent to the Central Committee of the Korean Writers Union in a few days. Scores of them have been published in newspapers and other publications.

The memorial poems "The Leader Always With Us," "We Look Up to the Immortal Image" and "O Leader, Our Leader" sing of the people weeping, beating their chests at the sad news that came like a bolt from the blue, mountains and rivers writhing with sorrow and the people who, repressing the pain with difficulty, resolve to always cherish the tender image of the fatherly leader.

The poems "We Will Always Uphold the Leader's Intention" and "Set Your Heart at Rest," carry the people's firm pledge to accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche, upholding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as wished by President Kim Il-song in his lifetime.

Many works reflect the great pride and honor of the entire nation in having Comrade Kim Chong-il as the illustrious leader of the Workers' Party of Korea and the state and supreme commander of the revolutionary Armed Forces. They say victory and glory are always in store for the Korean people advancing under his leadership.

The poem "We Look Up Only to You, General Kim Chong-il" and the words of song "He is Our Leader" and "We Always Feel Reassured" are typical of them.

Further on Domestic Mourning for Kim Il-song

Electricity Workers Boost Production

SK1307232994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—Electricity producers of the country are effecting a fresh upsurge in power production by turning their sorrow for the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song into strength and courage.

According to data available at the Ministry of Electric Power Industry, the power production was 30 percent above the plan on July 9 and 10.

The Kanggye Youth Power Station topped its daily assignments 60 percent, the Changjagang Power Station 20 percent and the Hochongang Power Station 1, percent.

The Pujongang Power Station produced 9,000,—200 more kwh from each generator.

The electricity producers at thermal power plants in Pyongyang, Pukchang, Sunchon, Chongjin, etc. have also boosted production by keeping every generator in full-capacity operation.

Wreath Laid on Behalf of SKNDF

SK1307165394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1643 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—A wreath was laid today by the bier of the great leader President Kim Il-song in the name of the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon).

It was laid by Yi Chong-sang, vice-chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], Hanminjon and chief of the Pyongyang mission of Hanminjon.

He observed a silent tribute in memory of President Kim Il-song, who devoted his whole life to the eternal prosperity of the nation and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

He wrote in the mourner's book:

"General Kim Il-song, the sun of the nation who performed undying feats for the human cause of independence, will always be alive in the hearts of all the South Korean people.

"We will achieve national reunification and accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche, holding in high esteem general Kim Chong-il, the destiny of our country and a brilliant commander who descended from the heaven, the leader of the nation and remaining loyal to him, thus fully realising what the fatherly leader President Kim Il-song intended in his lifetime.

[Dated] July 13, 1994.
[Signed] Central Committee
South Korean National Democratic Front."

Chongnyon Delegation Visits Bier

SK1307164394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1629 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—The mourning delegation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) led by Han Tok-su, chairman of its Central Standing Committee, visited the bier of the great leader President Kim Il-song on July 13 and expressed deep condolences with bitterest grief.

Present there were visiting groups of Chongnyon and compatriots staying in the socialist homeland.

The members of the mourning delegation laid a wreath in the name of the Chongnyon Central Standing Committee, sobbing bitterly with deep grief at the loss of the great leader, the father of the 700,000 compatriots in Japan, and paid a moment's silent tribute to Generalissimo Kim Il-song who devoted his whole life to the freedom and independence of the country and the happiness of the people.

Chairman Han Tok-su wrote in the mourner's book:

"Upon hearing the sad news of the death of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song, the entire officials of Chongnyon and the 700,000 compatriots in Japan are overwhelmed with deepest sadness and are mourning his death with deep reverence.

"Indeed, the respected leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song was the greatest thinker, the greatest statesman in human history and the affectionate father and the greatest among the great men, peerless in the national history of 5,000 years, who made Korea throw its rays to the whole world as the homeland of chuche.

"The entire officials of Chongnyon and compatriots in Japan solemnly pledge to firmly build up Chongnyon as an organisation loyal to the respected comrade supreme commander, exalt its example of the pioneer of the overseas compatriots movement, and thus acclaim him, the dear leader, on the rostrum of the reunification plaza, entrusting their destiny entirely to the great leader Marshal Kim Chong-il, the respected supreme commander, true to the noble intention of the fatherly leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song.

"The affectionate fatherly leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song will always remain alive in the hearts of the 700,000 compatriots in Japan."

Wreaths Laid From Cambodia, Egypt

SK1307163894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1618 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—Cambodian and Egyptian leaders sent wreaths to the bier of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Diplomatic envoys of Cambodia and Egypt to Korea today laid wreaths from Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk and Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak beside the bier of President Kim Il-song lying in state in the Kumsusan Assembly Hall.

Wreaths from Muhammad Husayn Tantawi, minister of defence and military production and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of Egypt, Muhammad Salah Attia Hallabi [spelling of name as received], chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Egypt, and the Swedish Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification were also laid. [sentence indistinct]

Diplomats Express Condolences

SK1407103994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Foreign diplomatic envoys and foreign friends who had participated in the mourning service before the bier of the great leader President Kim Il-song wrote their feelings in the mourner's book with a bitter grief at the loss of the greatest among the great men, whom they revered and respected so deeply.

The Algerian ambassador wrote in the mourner's book:

"We can hardly repress our grief after hearing the news that President Kim Il-song passed away.

"We are overcome by sorrow at the loss of a great man in history who had devoted his whole life to the victory of freedom and justice and the independence of the third world people.

"Believing that the Korean people will overcome the acute pain and carry forward the cause of the great leader to accomplishment under the leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il, I express sincere condolences."

The Syrian ambassador noted that the death of President Kim Il- song is a big loss for the entire Korean nation and all the friendly people of the world. The Korean people, he added, will always be victorious because the dear leader is leading the struggle for reunification and construction at their head.

The Palestinian ambassador stated that the image of the great President Kim Il-song, a teacher of all the revolutionary fighters of the world, will always remain in the hearts of the Korean people and the Palestinian people.

The Chinese ambassador wrote:

"We deeply mourn the death of President Kim Il-song, the closest friend of the Chinese people.

"He defended and developed the traditional friendship between the Chinese and Korean peoples with his great passion. His glorious and brilliant feats will remain forever in the hearts of the people.

"We will always yearn for him."

The Cuban ambassador said:

"At this moment when the Korean people are feeling bitter pains at the loss of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the Cuban people lost a friend of our people, who was an unforgettable comrade-in-arms, an anti-imperialist fighter and a defender of socialism.

"Expressing deepest condolences to the Korean people, I assure you that I will, in the future, too, struggle side by side with the Korean people."

The Vietnamese ambassador wrote:

"We will always remember Comrade Kim Il-song who was a veteran revolutionary fighter, the respected great leader of the Korean people, a prominent activist of the international communist movement and working-class movement and a close friend of the Vietnamese people."

Riichiro Aikawa [spelling of name as received], head of the delegation of the East Asia Trade Research board of Japan, said:

"What his excellency president wanted most for a long time was an independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, I think.

"I earnestly hope that the Korean people will change the deep sorrow at the loss of his excellency president, the great leader, into strength and achieve at an early date the independent and peaceful reunification of the country as desired by him."

The Mongolian ambassador wrote: "The feats of President Kim Il- song, the great leader of the Korean people and an old friend of the Mongolian people, will always remain in our hearts."

The Nigerian ambassador and his wife said:

"President Kim Il-song was a great man. He founded the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and led it.

"The whole world will remember the image of President Kim Il- song."

More International Reaction to Kim's Death Noted

PRC's Li Peng Visits Embassy

SK1407040294 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1400 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] In connection with the death of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and DPRK president, Comrade Li Peng, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and premier of the State Council, visited the DPRK Embassy to this country on 13 July and expressed his condolences. Those who expressed their condolences with Comrade Li Peng were Comrade Qiao Shi, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Comrade Li Ruihuan, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and Zhu Rongji, vice premier of the State Council, who are members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee; and Comrade Ding Guangen, member of the Political Bureau and member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee; Minister of Culture Liu Zhongde, Qi Huaiyuan, director of the Office of Foreign Affairs of the State Council, and Yuan Weimin, vice minister of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, members of the CPC Central Committee; Zeng Jianhui, director of the Information Office of the State Council; Vice Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan; and other senior party and state officials.

The portrait of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was placed in the frontal part of the mourning room, and wreaths from the Chinese party, state, army, and public organizations lay before the portrait.

DPRK Ambassador Chu Chang-chun and embassy officials stood by as honor guards.

While mourning music was being played, Comrades Li Peng, Qiao Shi, Li Ruihuan, Zhu Rongji, and Ding Guangen and other officials observed a moment's silence, bowed three times before the portrait of the great leader, and expressed deep condolences.

Comrade Li Peng wrote in the mourner's book:

I express deep condolences on the death of the great President Kim Il-song.

[Signed] Li Peng
[Dated] 13 July 1994

Comrade Li Peng met with the DPRK ambassador, said that he hoped that the grief would be overcome, and said: I hope that you will convey our regards and warm consolation to supreme commander Comrade Kim Chong-il [choego saryonggwan kim chong-il tongjikke uriui kyonguiwa ttattuthan wimunul chonhaedurigi paranda].

Former PRC Volunteers at Embassy

SK1407113794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1120 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Former cadres of the Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] and commanders of the Chinese People's Liberation Army [CPLA] called at the Korean Embassy in Beijing from July 11 to 13 to mourn the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Former CPV cadres observed a moment's silence before the portrait of President Kim Il-song, expressing deep condolences. Among those cadres were Vice-chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference [CPPCC] Hong Xuezhi, Director of the General Political Department of the CPLA Yu Yongbo, Director of the CPLA General Logistics Department Fu Quanyou, former Political Commissar of the

National Defence University Li Desheng, former Vice-chairman of the CPPCC National Committee Yang Chengwu, former Political Commissar of the CPLA General Logistics Department Wang Ping and former Political Commissar of the Chinese Academy of Military Science Liang Biye.

Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the CPLA Li Jing, Deputy Political Commissar of the Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence Li Jinai and other generals of the General Staff, the General Political Department and the General Logistics Department of the CPLA and commanders of units belonging to them called at the Korean Embassy Wednesday to express condolences.

More on Foreigners' Condolences

SK1407054294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Issei Inoue, vice-chairman of the Japan Social-Democratic Party, Wataru Kubo, secretary general of the Japan Social-Democratic Party, Makoto Tanabe, ex-chairman of the Japan Social-Democratic Party, Keizo Obuchi, vice-president of the Japan Liberal-Democratic Party, Hiromu Nonaka, Liberal- Democratic member of the House of Representatives and Minister of Home Affairs, Koshiro Ishida, chairman of the Komei Party, Ryosuke Kujiraoka, deputy speaker of the House of Representatives, Shuhachi Inoue, director general, and Kenichi Ogami, secretary general, of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea, Mutsuko Miki, wife of ex-prime minister, Eiichi Yokoyama, chairman of the Japan Teachers Union, and other personages of Japan visited the headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan from July 9 to 12 to express deep condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The Chinese, Laotian, Iranian, Bangladeshi, Algerian and Austrian ambassadors, the charges d'affaires ad interim of the Syrian and Tunisian Embassies and the minister of the Indian Embassy in Tokyo also visited the Chongnyon headquarters.

Wataru Kubo said he could not forget the leadership of President Kim Il-song, adding that the president devoted his whole life to the peaceful reunification of North and South Korea.

Yukio Hatoyama, Sakigake member of the House of Representatives, said the unexpected death of President Kim Il-song is a regrettable loss and sad event to the world. "The president was an excellent leader who displayed very strong leadership under difficult circumstances," he added.

Koreans in Japan 'Deeply Grieved'

SK1407054194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo July 13 (KNS-KCNA)—Koreans in Japan are deeply grieved at the sad news that the great leader President Kim Il-song passed away.

CHOSON SINBO July 13 said:

At the heart-rending news like a bolt from the blue, all Koreans in Japan, men and women, old and young, the first generation and the rising generation, are wailing with deepest sorrow ever since the history of the patriotic movement in all parts of Japan, wherever they live.

The history of Koreans' movement in Japan is nearly a half century since the great leader generalissimo Kim Il-song brought a new spring of the country's liberation, during which our fellow countrymen have never been overwhelmed with such a grievous feelings.

Yi Yong-sik, director of the Organizational Department of the Chiba Prefectural Headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), said in tears:

"I was received by the great leader four times till now. Words really failed me because I have not fulfilled one thousandth of the oath I have made to him.

"Our leader was deeply worried about Chongnyon and the Koreans in Japan until the last moment of his precious life."

Pyon Hae-won, chairman of the Oita prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon, said:

"Telephone calls come continuously: 'Is it true'. 'I cannot bring myself to believe it'".

"It seems the sun has gone out, the sky sunk down and the ground broken, to think of the death of so a great leader of ours.

"Koreans in Japan are making an oath to remain loyal to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il generation after generation, holding him in high esteem, changing the present sorrow into strength."

Yi Che-se under the Aomori prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon, Chong Chom-pon, advisor to the Saitama prefectural women's union headquarters of Chongnyon, Chu Pyong-sik, advisor to the Saitama Primary and Middle Educational Society of Chongnyon and other compatriots said they would bring into bloom on any account the intention of the leader down through generations, holding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in high esteem.

More Condolences Sent From Japan

SK1407103594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—The Kyoto prefectural headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), the Fukuoka prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon, CHOSON SINBO, the Korean Industrial Stock Company, Korean University and organisations under Chongnyon and enterprises sent messages of condolence on the death of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song.

The messages said that upon hearing the sad news on the death of Generalissimo Kim Il-song, they could hardly control great shock and sorrow, and expressed deepest condolences.

Noting that Generalissimo Kim Il-song had wisely led the Korean people, regarding "believing in the people as in heaven" as his maxim in the whole period of his revolutionary activities, and performed great exploits which will shine forever in the history of the Korean nation and human history, the messages said that his life was the most brilliant life of a great revolutionary and the most glorious life of a great leader.

The messages vowed to change the sorrow into strength and courage, defend and exalt the immortal exploits performed by Generalissimo Kim Il-song, by energetically conducting the struggle for national reunification and the movement of Koreans in Japan, holding the dear leader Marshal Kim Chong-il with loyalty in high esteem.

Lao Assembly Observes Silence

SK1207153094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 12 (KCNA)—The participants in the 4th extraordinary session of the 3rd National Assembly of Laos on July 11 observed a three-minute silence expressing deep condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The Laotian party and Government decided to set three days from July 14 to 16 as national mourning days and to hang the flag at half-mast throughout the country and at the Laotian Embassies abroad.

Laotian Party Issues Communique

SK1407112594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1112 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—A communique of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, the National Assembly and the Government of Laos was published on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song, according to the Laotian paper PASASON July 12.

Reporting the death of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to the people across the country, the communique says:

Comrade Kim Il-song, as the leader of the Korean revolution, devoted all his wisdom and passion to the national independence, freedom and happiness of the Korean people for decades and performed great feats.

He led the whole party and the entire people to the struggle for the building of socialism in the northern half of Korea and for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country under the banner of the chuche idea and recorded many achievements in this struggle.

The death of Comrade Kim Il-song is a big loss of the Korean people, the loss of their great leader, and the deepest sorrow.

And it is also a loss to the progressive forces, the loss of another distinguished revolutionary.

The party, Government and people of Laos can hardly repress grief at the death of Comrade Kim Il-song, a close friend of the Laotian people, who made a great contribution to strengthening and developing the traditional friendly and cooperative relations between the parties, Governments and peoples of Laos and Korea.

To mourn the death of Comrade Kim Il-song, the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the National Assembly and the Government of Laos declare the three days from July 14 to 16, 1994, a mourning period.

In this period the flag will be hung at half-mast at the party and government organs, the public organisations and institutions across the country and at Laotian Embassies and Consulates abroad.

Cambodian Party Visits Embassy

SK1407105094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1041 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—A delegation of the People's Party of Cambodia [PPC] headed by Prince Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the PPC Central Committee and supreme adviser to his majesty the king, on July 12 visited the Korean Embassy in Phnom Penh to mourn the death of the great leader President Kim Il- song. After laying a big wreath in front of the portrait of President Kim Il-song, the delegation expressed deep condolences with a moment's silent tribute. Then it made an entry in the mourner's book.

Heng Samrin told the Korean ambassador that the death of his excellency generalissimo is a great loss not only for the Korean people but also for the Cambodian people. He expressed the belief that the relations between the Workers' Party of Korea and the People's Party of Cambodia would continue to develop favorably because His Excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il is carrying forward the cause of his excellency generalissimo.

Thai Prime Minister Visits Embassy

SK1307165094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1639 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai visited the DPRK Embassy in Bangkok on July 12 to mourn the death of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Thai prime minister expressed deep condolences before the portrait of President Kim Il-song.

He expressed his bitter grief to the Korean ambassador, saying:

"His excellency President Kim Il-song passed away so suddenly.

"Only recently he worked in good health and conducted energetic external activities.

"After he met Jimmy Carter, inter-Korean summit talks were scheduled, a bright prospect was opened for the reunification of Korea and the peace process on the Korean peninsula was promoted.

"I have taken every possibie measure in connection with his death.

"Today I express deep condolences once again on the death of his excellency President Kim Il-song on behalf of the Thai Government and people.

"Please tell the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il that I express deep condolences as leader of the Democratic Party of Thailand to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea."

UN Secretary General Visits Mission

SK1307164294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1636 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—The Secretary General of the United Nations, Butrus Butrus Ghali, called at the DPRK mission at the U.N. on July 12 to express condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The secretary general observed a moment's silence before the portrait of President Kim Il-song, expressing deep condolences.

He signed the mourner's book.

Danish Party Head Visits Embassy

SK1407105794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Preben Moller Hansen, chairman of the Danish Workers' Party, Common Cause, visited the Korean Embassy in Copenhagen on July 10 to mourn the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

He expressed condolences before the portrait of President Kim Il- song.

He said that the death of President Kim Il-song is a big sorrow and loss for the Korean people and the working class of the world and that his great revolutionary idea and immortal feats will remain long in the hearts of the Korean people and the world working class.

He told the Korean ambassador that his party hopes the great leader Comrade Kim Chong-il will effect an epoch-making turn in socialist construction by successfully realising the intention of comrade President Kim Il-song. He said his party will powerfully support the Korean people in their just cause guided by Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Indian President Sends Wreath

SK1407110094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma on July 12 sent a wreath to the Korean Embassy in New Delhi on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Military secretary to the president visited the embassy with the wreath in the name of the president.

He laid the wreath before the portrait of President Kim Il-song and expressed deep condolences with a moment's silent tribute.

He, on behalf of the president, wrote in the mourner's book that President Kim Il-song, shouldering the destiny of the nation, led the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to progress and prosperity and left great feats in history.

Indian Figures Express Condolences

SK1407111994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1100 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Indian political and public figures on July 11 visited the Korean Embassy in New Delhi to mourn the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song. Wreaths and bundles of flowers were laid in front of the portrait of President Kim Il-song by political parties and organizations including the Indian National Congress Party (I), the Communist Party of India and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and prominent figures of political, public and press circles. Former Indian President Giani Zail Singh, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) H.S. Surjeet and chief officials of organizations and press organs visited the Korean Embassy in New Delhi and expressed condolences.

They unanimously said that the death of Comrade Kim Il-song is the biggest sorrow of mankind and means the present era lost the most outstanding leader of people without parallel.

The former President Madehthe following entry in the mourner's book:

"His excellency the great Kim Il-song is the greatest of great men and an outstanding leader of the world.

"We have lost the outstanding leader of the world, energetic and popular, with his death.

"The respected leader performed great exploits for world peace and progress of mankind.

"The world will remember the brilliant exploits of his excellency the great Kim Il-song forever.

"I believe that the dear leader Kim Chong-il will devote himself for world peace, following his excellency Kim Il-song".

He told the Korean ambassador he believed that his excellency the dear leader Kim Chong-il who is carrying forward the cause of his excellency the great leader President Kim Il-song will change the sorrow into strength and courage and build Korea into a more prosperous and reunified country by wisely leading the Korean people.

The General Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) wrote in the mourner's book that the death of the great leader is a great loss not only for the Korean people but also for the international communist movement and that his wise teachings will encourage fighters struggling for socialism.

M.M. Verma, director of the Indian Centre for the Study of the U.N., wrote in the book that though his excellency the great leader Kim Il-song passed away, his august name and brilliant exploits will remain forever in the hearts of people.

Condolence Messages From ROK

SK1407104894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Messages of condolence came from Yu Won-ho, a South Korean figure. Pak Yong-kil, widow of the late Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, who is chief director of the meeting of 70 million fellow countrymen greeting reunification, and Na Chang- son, permanent chairman of the Central Council of National Independence and Peaceful Reunification, on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Yu Won-ho in the message expresses deep condolences on the death of the great leader. He says:

Upon hearing the news of the sudden death of President Kim Il- song, I cannot repress grief and surprise. Vivid in my memory is the emotional day when I and the late Rev. Mun Ik-hwan were received by President Kim Il-song in spring 1989.

"I express condolences on the death of President Kim Il-song before national reunification he desired so earnestly. I extend sincere consolation to the bereaved family and the compatriots in the North."

Pak Yong-kil in her message said: "I deeply grieve for the death of President Kim Il-song when the reunification is in sight." She stressed that all the fellow countrymen in the South, the North and overseas should make greater efforts to achieve at an early date the reunification of the country which he desired.

Na Chang-sun extended deep condolences to the bier of President Kim Il-song who passed away suddenly with the North-South summit talks for accelerating the independent and peaceful reunification of the country at hand.

Overseas Koreans Send Condolences

SK1407104694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of condolence from Koreans and Korean organisations overseas on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Kang Il, chairman of the International Federation of Koreans for Reunification, in his message said:

"The entire members of the International Federation of Koreans for Reunification are overwhelmed with grief at the news that President Kim Il-song passed away.

"The whole life of President Kim Il-song was a most brilliant life of a patriot and a revolutionary who devoted everything to the liberation of the country and the happiness of the country and the people.

"Our Korea owes it to the great president that she, which once suffered an eclipse, has earned fame today as a powerful, dignified socialist state and her nation has become the most dignified nation in the world.

"Korea will make a long drive, guided by you Comrade Kim Chong-il who is creditably carrying forward the great president's revolutionary idea. I will do my utmost to accelerate the reunification of the country."

Yang Yong-tong, chairman of the headquarters of Koreans in China of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon), said:

"I feel as if the sky has fallen and the earth has sunk, but I will change my sorrow into strength and make every effort to accelerate the reunification of the country as wished by President Kim Il-song and acclaim you the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il on the high rostrum of reunification."

Messages of condolence also came from the European, Australian and Japan regional headquarters of Pomminnyon.

The messages said they could hardly repress bitter grief at the thought that President Kim Il-song who devoted everything to the country and the nation is gone when national reunification is in sight.

They expressed the determination to accomplish the noble cause of independent and peaceful reunification through great national unity, cherishing the behest of the president in his lifetime.

A letter of condolence came from the members of the Central Area Association of the Headquarters of Koreans in China of Pomminnyon.

Overseas Koreans Lay Wreaths

SK1407104794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Koreans and Korean organisations overseas called at a DPRK mission and laid wreaths, mourning the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Chairman of the Council of Christian Churches in the United States Yi Song-man, Permanent Chairman Yang Un-sik, Director of the Secretariat Pae Kang-ung and Co-chairman Yu Tae-yong, of the U.S. headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon), and many other U.S.-resident Koreans expressed condolences at the DPRK mission in New York.

The mourners, overwhelmed with grief at the death of the great leader, observed a moment's silence before his portrait and made entries in the mourner's book.

They vowed to work in accordance with the teachings of President Kim Il-song, not losing courage.

Wreaths were sent to the DPRK mission in New York from U.S.- resident Koreans.

The Canada headquarters of Pomminnyon, the Jungmin Friendship Corporation in Yanbian, China, and Koreans overseas expressed deep condolences in bitterest grief.

Foreign Parties Issue Statements

SK1407053594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Foreign parties published statements, a communique and a decision on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The Central Committee of the All-Union Bolshevik Communist Party in a statement July 9 said Comrade Kim Il-song led the 20-year long anti-Japanese struggle to victory, guided the building of a new society after the liberation of the country and defended the country from the aggression of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

The statement said he enjoyed high respect and true love from all the progressive people for his wisdom as an energetic activist, statesman, diplomat, internationalist and patriot and for his unassuming humanity.

Noting that his cause and idea will be immortal and they will serve the working people for ever, the statement expressed the belief that the workers, peasants, intellectuals and youths of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will carry to accomplishment the historical cause of Comrade Kim Il-song under the banner of the chuche idea, united closely around the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and Comrade Kim Chong-il, the most authoritative veteran leader.

Chairman of the Ecuadorian Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea Nelson Chaves, chairman of the Ecuadorian Cultural Institute for the Study of the Chuche Idea Milton Burbano member of Parliament Osvaldo Larriva Alvarado and other figures of Ecuador released a joint statement on July 9 saying the noble traits and great feats of President Kim Il- song cannot be found in any others in the world.

"We Ecuadorian comrades-in-arms who express sympathy with his idea and desire find it hard to repress bitter grief at his death and share the sorrow with the Korean people.

"We are convinced that in this hard time, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, as President Kim Il-song did, will triumphantly lead the Korean people at the head of the party, the state and the army."

The Central Committee of the Belgian Labour Party in its July 9 communique highly appreciated the great feats performed by President Kim Il-song for the victory of the socialist cause and expressed the belief that the WPK guided by Comrade Kim Chong-il will defend socialism and successfully accomplish the cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The decision adopted by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the Socialist Revolutionary Party of Peru reaffirmed that the way of accomplishing the cause of the independence of the popular masses is to build socialism and expressed deepest condolences on the sudden death of President Kim Il-song.

Kazakh President Visits Embassy

SK1207152794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 12 (KCNA)—Kazakh President Nursultan Abishevich Nazarbayev on July 11 visited the DPRK Embassy in his country and mourned the death of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Kazakh president expressed deep condolences with a moment's solemn silence before the portrait of President Kim Il-song.

Then he told the Korean ambassador:

"President Kim Il-song traversed a long road of ordeals all his life for the wellbeing of the people and the prosperity of the country.

"Today the Korean people respect Comrade Kim Chong-il and are advancing, united around him.

"I hope Comrade Kim Chong-il wilt dispell the sadness and grief of today and lead your people with stronger will.

"Please convey my deepest condolences to Comrade Kim Chong-il."

Malian Prime Minister at Embassy

SK1307225494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1541 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, prime minister of Mali, called at the Korean Embassy in his country on July 11 to mourn the death of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The prime minister observed a moment's silence expressing deep condolences on the death of President Kim Il-song.

He wrote in a mourner's book that the exploits of President Kim Il-song would remain forever in the memory of mankind through centuries.

State Minister and Defence Minister of Mali Diocounda Traore, the general secretary of the National Union of Workers of Mali and the chairman of the Malian National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea visited the embassy on the same day to express condolences.

Malian President Expresses Sympathy

SK1207160394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1549 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, Jul, 12 (KCNA)—Malian President Alpha Oumar Konare on July 11 visited the DPRK Embassy in his country to mourn the death of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

He expressed condolences before the portrait of President Kim Il- song.

He wrote in the mourner's book that with President Kim Il-song passing away, Mali lost its friend.

"The Malian people will always remember the support extended by the Korean people under the leadership of His Excellency President Kim Il-song to the Malian people even under difficult conditions," he added.

Conversing with the Korean ambassador, he expressed the belief that the Korean people will successfully carry forward the cause of His Excellency President Kim Il-song, firmly united around the dear leader His Excellency Kim Chong-il.

"The Malian people," he declared, "will always stand on the side of Korea. They hope that the Korean people will make greater successes in the building of a prosperous country and the accomplishment of the cause of national reunification."

Mozambican President at Embassy

SK1307230094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1615 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—Mozambican President Joaquim Alberto Chissano called at the DPRK Embassy in his country on July [date indistinct] to express condolences on the death of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

He was accompanied by the president of the assembly of the republic the secretary general of the Central Committee of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party and other officials of the assembly, party and power bodies.

The president and his companions expressed condolences before the portrait of President Kim Il-song.

In the entry he made in the mourner's book, the president said:

"Comrade Kim Il-song, a staunch revolutionary and an outstanding brilliant commander, who devotedly worked for the freedom of the people, progress of mankind and peace all over the world, was a great man without parallel in the world and his exploits will always remain in the hearts of all of us".

Saying that the death of President Kim Il-song is a big loss and sadness for the entire Mozambican people, the president hoped that the Korean people will overcome this sorrow and realize the desire of the great leader in his lifetime.

He wished the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il greater success in his future work for the reunification and peace of Korea.

Ugandan Officials Visit Embassy

SK1407105894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1043 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Vice-chairman of the National Resistance Movement Moses Kigongo [spelling of name as received], Prime Minister George Cosmas Adyebo, Presidential Advisor David Kibirango [spelling of name as received], Minister of State of the Presidential Office Anthony Logulu Butele, officials of the Foreign Ministry and Defence Ministry, officials of the Secretariat of the National Resistance Movement, members of Friendship Organization and a Chuche Idea Study Organization of Uganda visited the Korean Embassy in Kampala on July 11 to mourn the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

They expressed deep condolences before the portrait of President Kim Il-song and made entries in the mourner's book.

George Cosmas Adyebo, Anthony Logulu Butele, the Uganda- Democratic People's Republic of Korea Friendship Association and the Ugandan National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea laid wreaths before the portrait of President Kim Il-song.

Zimbabwean President at Embassy

SK1307163794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1623 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 13 (KCNA)—Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, visited the Korean Embassy in Harare on July 12 to mourn the death of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

He was accompanied by party and government officials.

The Zimbabwean president observed a moment's silence before the portrait of President Kim Il-song, expressing his deep condolences.

He wrote in the mourner's book:

"Comrade Kim Il-song was a great leader of the anti-imperialist, anti-colonial revolution and made an immortal contribution to the liberation struggle of the peoples of the world including Zimbabwe.

"His august name has been great and dear to our Zimbabwean people and will remain forever in the hearts of the peoples."

The president told the Korean ambassador that he and the Zimbabwean people, Africa and the world lost a great friend. The Zimbabwean Government and people respected him as the greatest friend, he added. "We believe the Korean people will accomplish the cause of prosperity and reunification of the country as wished by Comrade Kim Il-song in his lifetime, under the leadership of their supreme leader Comrade Kim Chong-il," President Robert T. Mugabe said, and continued: "President Kim Il-song made an immortal contribution to the prosperity and development of Korea and world peace and progress. We will do all our effort to continue to develop the friendly and cooperative relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"I have lost a great friend and great brother. President Kim Il- song was a great man, great leader and great father."

Tanzanian Prime Minister at Embassy

SK1407113894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1106 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—John Samuel Malecela, prime minister and first vice-president of the United Republic of Tanzania, on July 11 visited the DPRK Embassy in his country and expressed condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

He was accompanied by former General Secretary of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania Rashidi M. Kawawa, the chairman of the Dar es Salaam State Committee of the party and other party and government officials.

The prime minister expressed condolences before the portrait of President Kim Il-song.

He said he could hardly repress grief at the thought that he could no more meet President Kim Il-song. He expressed deep condolences to the government and people of the DPRK.

Rashidi M. Kawawa wrote in the mourner's book that the respected great leader President Kim Il-song was the greatest friend of the Tanzanian people. "I will always remember him, looking back on the great solicitude shown by him for helping Tanzania in its construction," he added.

Tanzanian President Visits Embassy

SK1407111194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1103 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi visited the Korean Embassy in Dar-es-Salaam on July 12 to mourn the death of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Tanzanian president observed a long silence before the portrait of President Kim Il-song, expressing deep condolences.

The Tanzanian president made an entry in the mourner's book.

The president told the Korean ambassador and embassy officials that the death of such great leader as President Kim Il-song is a big loss for the Tanzanian people and the progressive people of the world. "His excellency the great President Kim Il-song will always remain in our hearts for the dedication of his whole life to peace, justice and equality," he said.

The president told the ambassador he believes that the revolutionary cause started by his excellency the great President Kim Il-song would be brilliantly accomplished by his excellency the dear leader Kim Chong-il.

He wished his excellency Kim Chong-il success in his work.

More Heads of State Send Messages

SK1407055194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—Messages of condolence came to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il on the death of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from Polish President Lech Walesa; Sudanese President 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir; Portuguese President Mario Soares; Prime Minister of Mauritius Anerood Jugnauth; President of the National Assembly of Cambodia Chea Sim who is acting head of state and first vice-president of the National Assembly of Cambodia Loy Sim Chheang, who is acting president of the assembly; first prime minister Norodom Ranariddh and second prime minister Hun Sen of the Government of Cambodia.

Messages of condolence were also came to the DPRK Government from president of the Republic of Slovenia Milan Kucan; Sri Lankan President Dingiri Banda Wijetunga; and Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the C.C., the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

The messages expressed deep condolences, noting that the death of President Kim Il-song is a big loss not only for the Korean people but also for the world's progressive people.

They said that though President Kim Il-song passed away his great exploits will go down forever in the Korean history as well as in the world's progressive people's history of struggles for freedom, peace and social progress and remain eternally in the memory of mankind.

CPRF To 'Courteously Receive' ROK Delegates

SK1407062694 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0221 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] A spokesman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] issued a press statement [tamhwa] on 14 July concerning members of South Korean political parties, factions, and people of all walks of life who, unable to repress their sad feelings, are going to express deep sorrow over the death of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and send condolence delegations to Pyongyang. The press statement reads:

Press statement by CPRF spokesman.

All fellow countrymen transcending the North, the South, and overseas, are expressing deep and sincere condolences over the death of the respected and beloved President Kim Il-song, who devoted his whole life to the sacred cause of national liberation, national prosperity, and national reunification and produced immortal, great achievements for the country, the nation, the times, and history.

Taking the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, the long-cherished desire of the nation as his lifelong cause, President Kim Il-song devoted sleepless and restless efforts to realizing this desire until he reached the old age of 80. However, to our regret he has left us after making efforts to personally arrange top-level North-South talks and, thus, to bestow bright prospects of national reunification upon our nation.

Expressing our thanks to leaders of South Korean political parties and groups and South Korean people of all walks of life who expressed deep condolences, sent condolence messages, and plan to send condolence delegations to Pyongyang, unable to repress their deep sadness over President Kim Il-song, who has passed away without seeing the day of reunification, we inform as follows:

1. We will courteously [chongjunghi] receive South Korean condolence delegations or mourners who come to Pyongyang to express condolence before the spirit of the departed President Kim Il-song and to participate the in memorial service with warm compatriotic love.

2. South Korean condolence delegations or mourners can come via Panmunjom or via a third country.

3. We will guarantee the personal safety of South Korean condolence delegations or mourners and offer all possible conveniences to them while they are in Pyongyang.

South Groups Urge Seoul To Express Condolences

SK1407102494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—The South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon), the preparatory committee for the inauguration of the South side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon), the Federation of Citizens for Economic Justice (Kyongsilryon) and South Korean public figures, students and dissidents urged the authorities to express condolences on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song, a Seoul-based radio reported.

Hanchongnyon said the sudden death of President Kim Il-song with North-South summit talks just at hand is an acute pain and a big loss for all the people and urged the "government" authorities to send a mourning group jointly with political parties and social organizations of South Korea and allow mourning and memorial services to be held in South Korea. It declared that if this demand was not met, it could not but consider the dispatch of its independent mourning group.

Kyongsilryon called a press conference on July 12. As regards the death of President Kim Il-song, it said "it is the tradition of oriental morals to express condolences for the deceased" and urged the authorities to officially express condolences.

Students of the National Reunification Committee of the Sungkyunkwan University in a wallpaper on July 12 said even the United States and Japan expressed condolences on the death of President Kim Il-song and contended that the "government" authorities must do the same from the national stand.

The preparatory committee for the inauguration of the South side headquarters of Pomminnyon, opposition politicians and dissidents demanded that the authorities allow them to visit the North to participate in the funeral service for President Kim Il-song.

Cuban Lawyer Comments on Inter-Korean Summit

SK0907155494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 9 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 9 (KCNA)—The expected inter-Korean summit talks is a brilliant fruition of the patriotism of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong- il, Cuban woman lawyer Candelaria Rodriguez told KCNA here on July 6.

She visited Korea in 1951 during the Korean war as a member of a fact-finding group of the Women's International Democratic Federation and exposed to the world the truth of the crimes committed by the U.S. imperialists against peaceable people during the war.

She said:

"The Korean people have been suffering from division for nearly half a century. It is the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song who takes closest to heart the sufferings of the nation and devotes everything to the realization of their cherished desire.

"Since the division of the country by outside forces, the great leader has put his heart and soul to the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and advanced many reasonable and just proposals. Not forgetting the South Korean people even a moment, he has taken every possible measure for them. "The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with their distinguished wisdom and outstanding leadership ability of turning adversity into bliss set up a milestone in the great new history of the nation for turning the nearly half a century long history of antagonism and confrontation into a history of great national unity, and the history of division into a history of reunification.

"The event shows the noble traits of the people's leader who places the interests of the country and the nation in the first place in his thinking and finds joy in it, with great magnanimity to meet and have dialogue with anyone for national reunification.

"The current of the river continues under the ice. No one can break the Korean people's will for reunification and Korea will certainly be reunified into one."

Japanese Report on Gas Poisoning Denounced

Koreans in Japan Protest

SK0907130494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 9 Jul 94

[Text] Tokyo, July 6 (KNS-KCNA)—Koreans in Japan and Japanese people conducted a protest action against the Japanese SHUKAN ASAHI and the Nagano branch of ASAHI SHIMBUN which had deliberately linked gas poisoning in Nagano prefecture with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Nagano prefectural headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and Koreans under it strongly protested the false report of SHUKAN ASAHI.

The Nagano prefectural center of the trade union council and the Nagano prefectural people's council supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea sent a letter of protest in joint name to the chief editor of SHUKAN ASAHI and the chief of the Nagano branch of ASAHI SHIMBUN.

Noting that SHUKAN ASAHI and ASAHI SHIMBUN gave a greater fear and biased view to the residents who had not yet been relieved from uneasiness, by setting afloat the unfounded speculation that the gas poisoning in Matsumoto might be the work of a "person linked with North Korea", the letter urged those media to carry corrections and sincerely apologize for the false report.

Story 'Disgraceful Behavior'

SK0907143294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1100 GMT 9 Jul 94

["Disgraceful Behavior"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 9 (KCNA)—Recently, the Japanese weekly SHUKAN ASAHI linked in a far-fetched way the gas poisoning case that occurred in Matsumoto city, Nagano prefecture, with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, according to SANKEI SHIMBUN.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says:

The magazine cried over "nuclear suspicion" against the DPRK and its "issue of chemical weapons." And it tried to blame the DPRK for the poisoning case, nonsensically alleging that the toxic gas in question is the kind of "the chemical weapons stockpiled by the DPRK in secrecy." This is a groundless fabrication motivated by a sinister purpose.

The analyst further says:

The basic principle of activities and duty of the press are to circulate fair and true reports based on scientific and objective materials.

SHUKAN ASAHI, however, unhesitatingly invented and reported a groundless fact. Its allegation that the DPRK has "produced and stockpiled chemical weapons in secrecy" is a downright lie.

Its attempt to set afloat the rumor that the case is linked with the DPRK, is nothing but a trick to find another pretext for slandering the DPRK and intensifying the suppression of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

The magazine is serving the Japanese reactionaries as a mouthpiece in their anti-DPRK false propaganda, deviating from the original position of the press. This is an act of disgracing itself and betraying trust.

Foreign Leaders Support 'Just Cause' of Koreans

SK1107113094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 11 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 11 (KCNA)—Heads of state and a party leader of different countries voiced support to the just cause of the Korean people.

Mozambican President Joaquim Alberto Chissano in a speech commemorating the 19th anniversary of the independence of Mozambique and the founding of the Republic of Mozambique said the problems arising in and around the Korean peninsula are posing a threat to the peace and security in this region and the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula must be settled on any account through negotiations between the parties concerned.

Mongolian President Punsalmagiin Ochirbat, when he received credentials from the DPRK ambassador on July 4, said it will be of weighty significance to solve the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula through DPRK-USA talks. He expressed invariable support to the Korean people in their struggle for national reunification.

Senegalese President Abdou Diouf said he extended congratulations to the Korean people upon their achievements in the struggle to achieve the country's reunification and defend the nation's sovereignty, when he met the DPRK ambassador who paid a farewell call on him on July 6.

Chinese Vice-president Rong Yiren, when he met the Korean Government economic delegation on July 8 said China hoped that the parties concerned would promote peace and security in the Korean peninsula by resolving the issue through the talks.

Secretary General of the Arab Socialist Unionist Party of Syria Fayiz Ismail, when he met the DPRK ambassador, said Korea that has run in the spirit of Chollima under the leadership of President Kim Il-song has now become a country matchless in the world as it is led by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Pointing out that the imperialists can, on no account, stifle Korea's socialism, he said they always stand by Korea.

People Vow To Accomplish Revolutionary Cause

SK1407053694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—All the Korean people are now feeling bitterest grief at the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song and also vowing to accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche.

Yi Chae-chon, advisory director of the Chollima steel complex, said: "Upon hearing the sad news which was so shocking that I could hardly believe my own ears, I feel my heart torn asunder with a painful wrench. The great leader, who accomplished the historical cause of national liberation by victoriously leading the 20-year long anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, came to Kangson first, upon his triumphal return, bypassing his old home in Mangyongdae within a calling distance, and put the steelworkers in the foreground of the building of a new country. In the difficult postwar period, he put them in the van of the Chollima movement.

"We will turn today's sorrow and pain into strength and courage and remain loyal to the guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, thus exalting our socialism independent, self-reliant and self-supporting in national defence, which was built by the great leader, and carry the revolutionary cause of chuche to accomplishment."

Kim Nak-hui, chairwoman of the South Pyongan Provincial rural economy committee, said:

"Upon hearing the sad news which they could not and would not believe, the agricultural working people in Sukchon, Mundok, Onchon and Chungsan are breaking down with convulsive sobs, hugging healthy stalks of crops on field paths bearing the footprints of the great leader.

"The agricultural working people will turn this bitter sorrow of the nation into strength and courage and fully discharge their duty as the masters of the nation's granaries with the indomitable faith and will to remain loyal and devoted to the dear leader as wished by the great leader in his lifetime."

Prof. and Dr. Chae Hui-kuk who is corresponding member of the National Academy of Sciences and winner of Kim Il-song prize, said:

"After the liberation of the country, I wandered about in South Korea, undergoing all distress. It was not until I was embraced by the great leader that I could live a life worthy of man and take a true course of the study of history. I will unstintingly devote all my energy and wisdom to scentific researches to further glorify the national history of chuche Korea under the guidance of the dear leader."

Yu Ho-chun, director of the secretariat of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, said: "We are turning today's bitter sorrow and grief into the unshakable will and resolution to successfully accomplish the cause of national reunification desired by the fatherly leader President Kim Il-song, remaining faithful to the guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great master of ideology, theory and leadership and the lodestar of national reunification."

KCNA Reviews 14 Jul Pyongyang Press

SK1407055894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0456 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, July 14 (KCNA)—All papers here today convey home and foreign news on the death of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Papers report that Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], visited again the bier of President Kim Il-song on July 13, together with officers and men of the KPA and people of all walks of life in Pyongyang, and expressed deep condolences.

Given in the press is news that Premier Li Peng and other leading party and state cadres of China visited the DPRK Embassy in Beijing to express their sorrow, Li Peng said he hoped that the Korean people would carry forward the intention of President Kim Il- song in his lifetime and build their country better, and a joint delegation of the Vietnamese party, state and government and the Equatorial Guinean president visited the Korean embassies in their countries to express condolences.

Papers print pictures showing the wreaths sent by foreign party and state leaders expressing deep condolences on the death of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Under the blockletter titles "The Great Leader Comrade Kim Il- song Is Ever-Victorious, Iron-willed Brilliant Commander" and "The Whole Life of Respected Comrade Kim Il-song Was Most Glorious Life of the Great Leader" NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON devote one whole page each to photos showing the revolutionary activities of President Kim Il-song.

The press carries messages of condolences to Comrade Kim Chong- il, the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from heads of state, party leaders and high-ranking officials of different countries on the death of President Kim Il-song.

Appearing in the press is news that Comrade Kim Chong-il received a message of condolence from the chairman of the headquarters of Koreans in China of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification.

Workers, cooperative farmers, officers and men of the People's Army, intellectuals, youth and students, former war correspondent of the KPA Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will, and a mourning delegation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) led by Han Tok-su, chairman of its Central Standing Committee, expressed condolences before the bier of President Kim Il-song, says the press.

According to the press, workers, co-op farmers, intellectuals, officers and men of the KPA, youth and students visited the mourning places arranged at organs and industrial establishments and expressed condolences.

It is reported in the press that public circles, students and dissidents of South Korea and the South Korean Federation of General Student Councils (Hanchongnyon) urged the authorities to express condolences on the death of President Kim Il-song and many students and professors of South Korea mourned his death with bitter grief.

Conveyed in the press is news that Mun Son-myong, president of the World Peace Federation, sent a wreath to the DPRK Embassy in Beijing, wreaths were laid by foreign embassies here, the president of the UN General Assembly and participants in a meeting of the UN Economic and Social Council expressed condolences, representatives of different countries at UN visited the DPRK Mission to express condolences and persons related to the anti-Japanese revolution visited the DPRK Embassy in Beijing with a silent mourning.

NODONG SINMUN carries news that Koreans in Japan solemnly honored the memory of Generalissimo Kim Il-song, the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks published a statement and the C.C, the Belgian Labour Party a communique and foreign newspapers and radios highly praised the revolutionary feats of President Kim Il-song.

Under the blockletter titles "We Will Defend Through Generations the Noble Intention of the Fatherly Leader in His Lifetime" and "We Will Accomplish Through Generations the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche, Upholding the Intention of the Great Leader" NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON round up voices of working people who are vowing to uphold the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with loyalty by carrying forward the intention of the great leader.

South Korea

Kim Chong-il: Leave ROK Brands Unremoved

SK1307140094 Seoul YONHAP in English 1156 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Hong Kong, July 13 (YONHAP)—North Korea's Kim Chong-il has recently ordered his economic officials not to bother to remove original brands from South Korean-made goods widely in use in North Korea, a source here well versed with North Korean affairs said on Wednesday.

"The people well know that South Korean commodities are good. You don't need to bother to place Japanese brands on South Korean goods or introduce South Korean commodities without any brands on them as you do now," Kim Chong-il, now the obvious top leader of North Korea, reportedly said before a group of economic officials late last month.

The source said the officials told him that at the instructions of Kim Chong-il, some South Korean-made goods have already begun to be used with their original South Korean brands on them.

In the past, all South Korean-made goods such as vehicles, television sets, refrigerators, electric washers, radioes and garments either carried false Japanese brands or used to be marketed without any brands.

The source said the instructions were highly significant since they may hint at his likely policy to open the economy to South Korea and since they represent his view of the South Korean economy.

A surprsingly large number—several thousands—of South Korean vehicles are being operated in Pyongyang and other major North Korean cities, the source quoted one of the senior officials as saying.

Kim Chong-il's Personnel Connections, Aides

SK1407031594 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1222 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] The transfer of power from Kim Il-song to Kim Chong-il is imminent in North Korea. The power transfer inevitably presupposes an emergence of new figures to maintain that power. Kim Chong-il's emerging group of aides have been analyzed as being reform-oriented and openness-oriented, rather than close-door- oriented. Reporter Kim Chong-myong reports:

[Begin Kim Chong-myong recording] The common feature found in Kim Chong-il's men in core power organs in North Korea, is that they either graduated from the Mangyongdae Revolutionary Institute or Kim Il-song University or that they are technocrats who studied abroad. Accordingly, a considerable number of them tend toward openness.

Military officers, including General O Kuk-yol, a member of the family of a veteran revolutionary who served as chief of the General Staff of the North Korean Army, will exercise key influence in the power transfer, and many of those who studied abroad are precisely the so-called close confidents to Kim Chong-il. As their position is strengthened, the North Korean Army which has been controled thus far by the anti-Japanese partisan generation, will inevitably undergo reorganization.

North Korea will also be likely to tend towards opening up in order to solve the present difficult economy through Kim Chong-il's men, namely, Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council; Kim Tal-hyon, former vice premier; Chon Pyong-ho; and Han Song-yong who are young technocrats.

In the field of the foreign policy, including the nuclear issue, Kim Yong-su, director of the international department [as heard], who is Kim Chong-il's relative on his mother side, Kim Yong-nam, foreign minister, and Kang Sok-chu, vice foreign minister, have won his [Kim Chong-il] firm confidence. Accordingly, observers predict that there will be no big change in North Korea's foreign policy in the future.

Hwang Chang-yop, known to be the virtual creator of the chuche idea and as having once served as Kim Il-song University's president, and Kye Ung-tae who is known to be in charge of public security, are also core Kim Chong-il men within the party.

Besides these figures, Vice Premier Kim Yong-chu, who is Kim Chong-il's uncle; Chang Song-taek, director of the three revolutions team department, who is the husband of Kim's sister; and other figures who are known to be Kim's relatives, are also figures who will support Kim.

These Kim Chong-il's men are composed of various generations and dispositioned in various files throughout

North Korea. Accordingly, it is certain that these figures will lead North Korea under Kim Chong-il. [end recording]

Possible Social Changes Under Kim Chong-il

SK1307095794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0648 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Third of four-part series on the policies of the new North Korean leadership: "North Korea likely to open door on limited scale" by Yi kwang-ho]

[Text] Seoul, July 13 (YONHAP)—What will the new Kim Chong- il leadership system look like in North Korea, an exceptionally closed and reclusive society dominated by the chuche (self-reliance) ideology?

Will the country move boldly forward, opening its door wider in an era of increasing globalization, or continue adhering to a policy of isolation?

From the standpoint of his personal inclinations, Kim Chong-il might not epitomize such words as control, suppression, closure and isolation.

He also may not be a "genius artist" as proclaimed by North Korea. But he does seem to be of an artistic disposition in the fields of music, film, fine arts and architecture. Above all else, he is known to be a man of an exceedingly laissez-faire bent.

In view of his past conduct that contributed to changes in the life styles of North Koreans, Kim is more likely to move forward with openness than close the door.

The consensus here is that the winds of openness began blowing into North Korea around the mid-1980s, a period when Kim's position as the heir-apparent of his father Kim Il-song had already been consolidated. This indicated the close link between Kim Chong-il and the partial opening of North Korean society.

Such societal opening was first perceived through changes in woman's dress and use of makeup.

When foreigners and Koreans living overseas visited North Korea in the mid-80s, they often saw women striding along the streets of Pyongyang wearing heavier makeup than their Russian and Chinese contemporaries.

In magazines and newspapers, exceptional stories were carried such as "proper ways of dressing up for the season and physical structure." In large cities such as Wonsan and Pyongyang, news filtered out of dress exhibitions and fashion shows for North Korean styles.

Such changes, considered unthinkable previously, were apparently orchestrated by Kim Chong-il, who instructed in February 1984 the production of high-quality cloth to meet the tastes of the times through a revolution in light industry.

And in May 1984, he advised men to wear suits instead of "people's dress," the ubiquitous Lenin-style uniform. In 1986, North Korea prohibited women from wearing trousers and black and military-colored dresses.

Even hair-styles were influenced by the whims of Kim Chong-il. In one October edition of the popular monthly magazine "CHOLLIMA, "men were advised to wear a "socialistic hair-style" that was simple, neat and suited for the physical structure, face, age, "season" and even occupation of each individual.

The winds of openness also spread to literature and music. In the case of literature such novels as "Chongchun Songa" (youth hymn) and "Bot" (friend), which were even distributed in South Korea, dealt with love affairs between a man and a woman, and a husband and wife. These exemplary North Korean novels were an indication of a daring transformation from the "chuche literature" equipped with theoretical weapons for the construction of socialism.

Popular songs on the subject of love began to show up around this time. Indeed, light music bands using electronic instruments were playing lively and buoyant music.

A love song titled "Hwiparam" (whistle) created a sensation across North Korea. The first modern version of a pop ensemble, the Pochonbo music band, was born and even toured Japan in September 1991.

Travel restrictions on citizens were eased as witnessed by recent North Koreans who escaped to South Korea from the North. They say that the trains are jampacked with passengers heading for their homes in the provinces during such holidays as Chusok (autumnal moon festival which falls on Aug. 15 according to the lunar calendar). In normal times, travel for the purpose of acquiring food is not restricted, they observe.

Experts on North Korea explain that the partial easing of travel curbs is a meaningful sign of North Korea's movement toward a more open society.

But in the process of opening its society somewhat, the North has experienced some unwanted side effects. Some youths began to long for capitalism and materialism. Social ills such as bribery, irregularities and crime increased steadily. Standing above anything else, more North Korean people have been fleeing their country and discoloring "the paradise of socialism."

It would be difficult for Kim Chong-il to return to a more closed society by tightening his grip on his people. This is because he, as the new leader, must meet the people's expectations by overcoming the nation's economic difficulties—a dilemma that could not be solved without outside help.

'Analysis' on DPRK Presidency Assumption

SK1407111894 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1000 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Report by Pak Tae-sok from Beijing]

[Text] Analysis indicates that between the position of North Korean president and general secretary of the Workers' Party, which have become vacant due to Kim Il-song's death, it seems that Kim Chong-il will only assume the position of party general secretary.

Sources well-informed on North Korean affairs view that there is a high possibility that if Kim Chong-il does not take the post of president, Hwang Chang-yop, chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA]; or Kim Yong-sun, chairman of the Reunification Policy Deliberation Committee of the SPA, will assume the position of president.

Papers Discuss Possible Kim Chong-il Roles

SK1407035994

[Editorial Report] ROK vernacular newspapers publish on 14 July articles discussing Kim Chong-il's succession to power.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO carries on page 2 a 200-word report quoting a high-ranking ROK Government official as saying on 13 July that the announcement of the election of Kim Chong-il as new general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea, WPK, will be made after Kim Il-song's funeral on 17 July on the grounds that "North Korea has usually announced personnel decisions right before the Supreme People's Assembly, SPA, sessions, which are usually held after a convocation announcement." The report notes that as of 13 July there was no convocation announcement, so there will be no SPA session before 17 July.

The moderate TONG-A ILBO publishes on page 1 a 600-word report quoting a government official as follows: "I do not think the SPA sessions have already been convened, because they are usually open sessions. Even if the succession issue has been decided internally, the new party general secretary and president will be announced at an open plenum of the WPK and an SPA session after the funeral on 17 July."

TONG-A ILBO also publishes on page 3 a 1,300-word article by reporter Pak Che-kyun speculating on the timing of the announcement of Kim Chong-il as successor to two titles: WPK general secretary and president.

Noting that SPA sessions have never been closed, the article concludes that it would be difficult to hold a session of the 687- member SPA before 17 July. The article also notes speculation that "making the announcement during the mourning period would be advantageous because the North Korean people would view it as President Kim's will to hand over the power to Kim Chong-il." Therefore, the article speculates that the SPA announcement of the new president might be delayed, but the new party general secretary might be announced during the mourning period to solidify Kim Chong- il's power.

The moderate HANGUK ILBO publishes on page 4 a 1,100-word article by reporter Yu Sung-u speculating on North Korea's political schedule. The article reports that relevant government officials believe the mourning period before 17 July will be used as a campaign period for Kim Chong-il's inauguration as the WPK general secretary. The article quotes relevant government officials as saying: "An extravagant inauguration of Kim Chong-il as WPK general secretary and president is most likely to be held after the funeral. After being elected president at the SPA, he will ascend to the post of general secretary of the WPK at a national party congress, the first in 14 years."

The left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN publishes on page 1 a 400-word article by reporter Kim Yi-taek quoting an unnamed government official that "it is not certain that Kim Chong-il has been elected general secretary already because current titles referring to Kim Chong-il are not significantly different from those in the past."

HANGYORE SINMUN also publishes on page 3 a 1,000-word article by reporter Pak Chung-on. Referring to a Moscow ITAR-TASS report that over 100 cars were parked outside the People's Cultural Palace at around 1900 on 12 July, the article quotes a government official that "It is most likely that they held a plenary session in camera until the memorial service at 2100. The decision made that night might be ratified in an open session immediately after the funeral on 17 July."

DPRK's Kim Yong-sun, Kim Tal-hyon Assessed

SK1407012894 Seoul YONHAP in English 0108 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—As Kim Chong-il is certain to take power after his father's death, advocates of an open-door policy, represented by Workers' (communist) Party Secretary Kim Yong-sun and former Vice Premier Kim Tal-hyon, are likely to come to the fore, a government official said Thursday.

The government has come to this tentative conclusion after examining the actions of these open-door policy advocates after Kim Il-song's death.

Quoting Radio Pyongyang as having reported Wednesday that Kim Yong-sun had met a condolence mission from Chochongyon (the pro- North Korean Association of Korean Residents in Japan), he said in view of the current situation it is almost certain that Kim Yong-sun greeted the mission on the orders of Kim Chong-il.

Kim Chong-il is known to regard Chochongyon as of great importance to him, apparently prompting him to order Kim Yong-sun to meet Chochongyon's condolence mission even though Kim Yong-sun's main job concerns South Korean affairs. "This may indicate that Kim Chong-il will give Kim Yong-sun greater responsibility," the official remarked.

Another official said, "in the television scenes of condolences expressed by North Korean party, government and military leaders in a group before Kim Il-song's body aired Monday night, Kim Yong-sun was attending to Kim Kyong-hui, Kim Chong-il's sister, who was standing just behind her brother. This shows how much Kim Chong-il trusts Kim Yong-sun."

Students Demand Dispatch of Condolence Mission

SK1407114594 Seoul YONHAP in English 1134 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—Hanchongnyon (Korean Federation of Student Councils) said Thursday afternoon it would send a condolence mission to North Korea on its own if the government does not allow the dispatch by Sunday.

In a press conference at the student hall of Hanyang University, Hanchongnyon President Kim Hyon-chun, a senior of Pusan University, said that even if the government bans the dispatch of a condolence mission, his Hanchongnyon would send one to North Korea on its own.

Asserting that an air current is being formed in a negative direction in connection with Kim Il-song's death, Kim said such a current would jeopardize national aspiration for unification.

He also charged that Wednesday's arrest of some 50 Hanchongnyon leaders was part of persecution of student movements and national democratic campaigns.

"My organization may launch overall anti-government struggles by pooling the determination of the 1 million Hanchongnyon students," Kim said.

Prior to Kim's press talks, about 1,000 students belonging to Sochongnyon or Seoul-area Federation of Student Councils staged a rally at a Hanyang campus ground to denounce the arrest and resolve to protect the Sochongnyon to the end.

Condolence Visits to North Korea Prohibited

SK1407102794 Seoul YONHAP in English 1014 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government does not authorize any visits to North Korea by South Korean people for the purpose of expressing condolence over the death of Kim Il- song.

Kim Hyong-ki, spokesman for the National Unification Board, said on Thursday, "as has been announced, the government policy is not to permit condolence visits to North Korea by any South Koreans in view of the situation of inter-Korean relations."

The spokesman was commenting on a statement issued by North Korea's Committee for Peaceful Unification of the Fatherland to the effect that the North would welcome South Koreans' condolence visits.

The statement broadcast by the North's Central Broadcasting Co. Thursday morning expressed appreciation to those South Korean political parties and various sectors "planning to send condolence missions to North Korea."

"Condolence missions from South Korea could either pass through Panmunjom or come via third countries," the statement said in part. "We will cordially receive them with brotherly affection."

President of Daily Pays DPRK Condolence Visit

SK1407022294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0159 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—Pak Po-hui, president of the vernacular daily SEGYE TIMES, arrived in Pyongyang via Beijing Wednesday to pay respects to the late North Korean leader Kim Il- song, sources here said Thursday. He is the first South Korean to visit Pyongyang to express condolences over Kim's death. Pak is reportedly visiting Pyongyang with Korean-American journalist Mun Myong-cha and Pastors Kim In-kyong and Hong Tong-kun.

National Unification Board Spokesman Kim Hyong-ki said Pak and his group members need not file for applications to visit North Korea if they are U.S. citizens. Officials have asked through diplomatic channels whether they are American citizens and for now only know that they had U.S. residence permits in 1991. If Pak and the other travelers are not U.S. citizens and only possess residence permits, they are bound by law to notify the South Korean Embassy before entering North Korea, the officials said.

North Korean broadcast media reported Wednesday evening that Pak and Kim Hyo-yul, special assistant to Pak's mentor Mun Son-myong, chief of the Federation for World Peace, had sent a consolatory message to North Korea.

The reports quoted the message as saying they "are overcome with grief when they realize that the great leader, who ended more than 40 years of imperial oppression and created a nation of such force and vigor and led it, is no longer here."

Prosecution Investigating Visit

SK1407060194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0438 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—The public prosecution said Thursday it is investigating SEGYE TIMES President Pak Po-hui's visit to North Korea Wednesday.

As Pak's purpose for visiting the North is not clearly known, the prosecution will decide whether he should be prosecuted after he returns home, while keeping an eye on his activities in North Korea, a spokesman said.

Pak holds a U.S. residence permit and if he reports to the National Unification Board about his trip to North Korea after he returns, he will not be in violation of the law, he added.

But if he paid homage to the late Kim Il-song or issued a joint statement with Kim Chong-il or other North Korean leaders while in Pyongyang, he would face indictment on charges of violating the national security law, he remarked.

The SEGYE TIMES said Pak left Seoul Monday for Pyongyang to interview Kim Chong-il. On his way to Pyongyang, Pak stopped over in Beijing to notify the South Korean Embassy of his North Korean visit and then left for Pyongyang Wednesday, it added.

UN To Support Peninsula 'Peaceful Unification'

SK1407102994 Seoul YONHAP in English 1018 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—A visiting senior United Nations official said on Thursday [14 July] the

United Nations and the rest of the world community would positively support peaceful unification of the Korean peninsula.

Samuel R. Insanally, current president of the U.N. General Assembly [UNGA], also expressed the hope that with Kim Il-song's death as a momentum, inter-Korean relations would develop in a new direction.

In a press conference held at the Hotel Lotte, Insanally said South Korea is fully qualified to obtain a non-permanent seat of the U.N. Security Council.

If South Korea expands its role at the United Nations on the strength of its economic success, Korea could improve its international image.

Also in a speech at a luncheon hosted by the United Nations Korea Association, the General Assembly president said United Nations activities should be further strengthened to better maintain international peace and security.

Insanally, who is concurrent Guyana ambassador to the Untied Nations and non-resident Guyana envoy to South Korea, said that during his UNGA presidency he would concentrate on the social development area such as economic development in underdeveloped countries and human rights promotion.

PRC Recognizes Kim 'Only' as Party Leader

SK1307114994 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1100 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] China will attempt to establish new relations with North Korea after closely watching the developments in North Korea for the time being without fully recognizing Kim Chong-il as its leader, reported the Belgian daily, LE SOIR, on 13 July in a Beijing- datelined story.

The paper reported that the Chinese leaders, in their condolence messages on the death of Kim Il-song, only recognized Kim Chong-il as the leader of the Workers' Party of Korea and selected the North Korean Embassy in Beijing as the place to pay respects for the death of Kim Il-song, which is somewhat insufficient for China professing to have a blood-tied alliance with North Korea.

Kim Chong-il-Chongnyon Relations Analyzed

SK1307145794 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 13 Jul 94 p 6

[By correspondent Yi Chang-min from Tokyo]

[Text] Kim Chong-il, successor to the late Kim Il-song, who will rule over North Korea after Kim Il-song's death, has reportedly maintained close relations with the Headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan [Chongnyon]—headed by Chairman Han Tok-su—North Korea's largest overseas organization, to secure financial support from it.

Chongnyon was formed on 15 May 1955 under a program entitled "Let Us Make All Koreans in Japan Unite Around the DPRK." Since then, it has been a financial source for North Korea and fulfilled its duties as a vanguard unit of cultural propaganda, without a snag, pledging firm loyalty to Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il.

The Chongnyon Headquarters is located in the Chiyoda District in downtown Tokyo, the capital of Japan. It has approximately 300 branch offices in all administrative units in provinces, cities, and prefectures plus approximately 1,800 local chapters throughout Japan, taking pride in being one of the largest foreign organizations in Japan. It has 16 subsidiary organizations, including the Democratic Women's Union, the Youth League, and the Chamber of Commerce, and has 17 business organizations—such as the KOREAN NEWS AGENCY and other news agencies, communications and publication companies, the DPRK-Japanese Export and Import Company, and the Kumgangsan Opera Company. In addition, it has approximately 154 national schools under the Korea University. Now, with the 40th anniversary of its founding ahead, it has become a big organization that cannot be ignored even by the Japanese Government.

North Korea has regarded Chongnyon as an "inexhaustible fountain of wealth" that supplies it with foreign currency and has forced it, directly or indirectly, to channel money to Pyongyang. Also, it has summoned Chongnyon cadres to Pyongyang and ordered them to carry out various projects and operations. It has been learned that sometimes Kim Il-song directly ordered them to carry out such operational activities but, since the eighties, Kim Chong-il has been the one directly involved in it.

Kim Chong-il has been the key person to manage Chongnyon since Kim Il-song was alive. This is proved by Kim Chong-il's singular meetings with Chongnyon officials, as well as his expression of trust and affection for them, despite his personality of being reluctant to be seen in official meetings. Kim Chong-il's official activities numbered only six this year. He has not given on-the- spot guidance to any plant or cooperative farm, nor met with any visiting foreign leader this year. He did not even show his face to former U.S. President Jimmy Carter when he visited North Korea.

The six official events in which Kim Chong-il participated this year includes two meetings between him and high-level Chongnyon officials, for which he gladly spent time. He met with Ho Chong- man, responsible vice chairman of Chongnyon, on 28 February and with Yi Chin-kyu, first vice chairman of Chongnyon, on 25 April.

Kim Chong-il has special affection for Chongnyon because it has made great contributions to promoting the North Korean economy, and because, in private, it is the main source for audio and video equipment, such as music discs, ultramodern audio sets, and film projectors, which are necessary for the enjoyment of his hobbies: films and music.

When he meets with foreign figures, Kim Chong-il merely exchanges handshakes without much words. It has been learned, however, that when he meets with high-level

Chongnyon officials he often personally and secretly asks them for what he needs, dragging the meeting out for over an hour.

In particular, it is a matter of common knowledge inside Chongnyon that responsible Vice Chairman Ho Chong-man is one of the most faithful servants of Kim Chong-il and holds more power over Chongnyon than the old, diseased, and token Chairman Han Tok-su. In a one-hour interview by Japan's TBS TV in June, Vice Chairman Ho endlessly admired Kim Chong-il's brilliance and leadership, thus making people guess Kim Chong-il's succession to power has been assured.

In August 1988, when North Korea's economic situation was getting worse, Kim Chong-il called Chongnyon Vice Chairman Ho to Pyongyang. He confirmed the balance at the bank of the Korea Credit Union, an affiliate of Chongnyon, and directly ordered Ho to "increase contributions up to one trillion yen." After receiving Kim Chong- il's order, Chongnyon was once directly involved in operating slot machine rooms and hotels under the policy to collect 50 billion yen. Of course, it borrowed others' names in opening the slot machine rooms and hotels and making the list of directors for each of them. However, all of them were operated directly by Chongnyon. In fact, a vice chairman of a local Chongnyon headquarters operated a slot machine room, which made an annual profit of 100 million yen.

Japanese experts on North Korea predict that as the North Korean economy worsens, North Korea will be all the more dependent upon Chongnyon, and accordingly, the position of Vice Chairman Ho Chong-man, who is known as Kim Chong-il's faithful servant, will be elevated.

DPRK-Japan Trade Relations Assessed

SK1407060794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0544 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—Japan exported machinery and parts totaling 1,127 million yen to North Korea in the first five months of this year, up 3 percent from a year earlier, according to Japanese trade figures obtained by the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA).

Japanese shipments of machinery to North Korea have been on the increase since January, with machinery having emerged as Japan's single largest export item to North Korea.

In 1989, Japan's machinery exports to North Korea reached a peak of 6,934 million yen. The amount then fell 15.1 percent to 5,886 million yen in 1990 before climbing 12.6 percent to 6,627 million yen in 1991. Machinery exports tumbled 20.9 percent to 5,244 million yen in 1992 and a further 42 percent to 3,044 million yen last year.

In 1993, Japan shipped 5,575 million yen worth of automobiles, chiefly trucks, to North Korea, but exports in the first five months of this year amounted to only 627 million yen, down 46.9 percent from a year earlier. Truck exports soared 191.8 percent from the January-May period of last year to 342 million yen, but passenger car exports plummeted 86.1 percent to 132 million yen. Accordingly, automobiles have become Japan's third largest export item to North Korea, behind machinery and woolen fabrics.

Exports of woolen fabrics, considered as being processed into finished goods such as garments for re-import by Japan, amounted to 2,008 million yen last year, third in the rankings of export items to North Korea. In the January-may period of this year, woolen fabrics became the second largest export item, though exports fell 35.6 percent from a year earlier to 641 million yen.

Japan's overall exports to North Korea in the five-month period slipped 30.2 percent from a year earlier to 6,189 million yen and imports also dipped 12.2 percent to 9,290 million yen.

Japanese Export of Atomic Parts to DPRK Noted

SK1407105294 Seoul MUNHWA ILBO in Korean 14 Jul 94 p 9

[Text] It has been learned that Japan exported to North Korea 1,127 million yen worth of reactors, boilers, machines, and parts (belonging to the HS goods class no. 2 [as published]) for nuclear power plants from the beginning of this year to the end of May.

According to Japanese trade statistics obtained and released by the Korea Trade Association on 14 July, Japanese exports of nuclear power plant machinery and parts have increased since the beginning of this year; these items rank first among exports to North Korea, with a total export amount exceeding that of cars.

In 1989, Japan exported 6,934 million yen worth of nuclear power plant machinery and parts to North Korea, establishing a record. It exported 5,886 million yen worth of parts to North Korea in 1990, down 15.1 percent from 1989, and 6,627 million yen worth in 1991, up 12.6 percent from the year previous.

In 1992, Japanese exports of these items to North Korea amounted to 5,244 million yen, down 20.9 percent; in 1993, such exports amounted to 3,044 million yen, down another 42 percent. However, the total amount of exports during the period from January through May 1994 was up 3 percent from the same period last year. These goods have emerged as main items being exported to North Korea.

In spite of a rapid decrease in both Japanese exports to and imports from North Korea since the beginning of this year, exports of nuclear power plant machinery and parts have been on the increase over the past three years, and these items have emerged as the main items being exported to North Korea. This reflects North Korea's ambition to develop nuclear weapons.

Sources Report Increase in Tours to Panmunjom

SK0607091194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0838 GMT 6 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 6 (YONHAP)—The truce village of Panmunjom, capturing the public spotlight amid hopes that the scheduled inter-Korean summit can thaw the last ice of the cold war era, has attracted more visitors recently than usual, military and tourism industry sources said Wednesday.

Some 79,000 tourists have visited Panmunjom during the first six months of this year, with total visitors to the truce village in 1994 expected to far outnumber last year's 107,000, according to the United Nations Command (UNC).

According to James Coles, public information chief for the UNC, the number of visitors to Panmunjom increased 26,000 in March-June over the same period last year and the trend points to even more.

Currently, Koreans who want to visit the truce village must apply for a tour permit with the UNC and form a tour team before sending an official letter to the unification minister to ask for his cooperation. They in turn should file the proper identification document with the police chief in charge of their residential area. Foreigners, however, are free to visit the border village by only showing their passports.

Travel agents arranging visits to Panmunjom said that the number of foreign tourists to the truce village during the first half of this year was about 9,000, similar to last year, while the number of locals visiting Panmunjom during the period rose drastically.

The UNC allocates seven out of nine daily tour schedules to Panmunjom to locals to accommodate such growth, according to a UNC spokesman. The UNC allows visits to Panmunjom nine times a day and six days a week.

Prime Minister: No Tariffs on Trade With DPRK

SK0807023294 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 8 Jul 94 p 2

[Text] Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok hinted yesterday that the government will not levy tariffs on commodities from North Korea when the two Koreas revive direct trade.

"The government's basic position is that the South-North trade is not a matter which needs approval from GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) because we see it as an intra-Korean matter," Yi said during an interpellation session.

He was responding to ruling party lawmaker Yu Chong-su who claimed that the government should seek to get an international approval on the inter-Korean duty-free trade before the inauguration of the World Trade Organization.

Several U.S. interest groups, however, opposed the idea of duty- free trade between South and North Korea when the two Koreas attempted direct trade of rice in 1991, saying that such practices are against the MFN (most-favored-nation) treatment clause of GATT.

Yi said that the government will focus its economic policy on stabilizing prices during the second half of this year.

"The nation's economy is coming out of recession and exports are on the rise, but there are some factors causing consumer prices to become unstable such as the rise in the price of raw material," he said.

Also the government will push for the abolition of a restriction on the ownership of farmland in the Agriculture Promotion Area in a move to help farmers.

Any Korean, in principle, cannot own more than 10 ha in the heavily protected area and 3 ha of farmland outside the area.

But he said it may be difficult to liberalize farmland possession because it could result in real estate speculation.

The premier also stated the government will go ahead with its efforts to closely monitor business activities by big business groups in order to prevent unfair business transactions.

During the interpellation session, ruling and opposition lawmakers took issue with government measures to help the domestic agriculture industry and with market concentration by chaebols, or business conglomerates.

Rep. Pak Kyong-su of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) urged the government to liberalize farmland arguing that restriction on buying or selling farmland was the main factor that has impoverished the nation's rural communities.

Rep. Choe Uk-chol of the opposition Democratic Party (DP) demanded that the government reveal its blue print for improving the nation's agro-fisheries industries.

He also proposed an inter-Korean exchange concerning agriculture, expressing hope that the upcoming summit talks will revitalize inter-Korean economic cooperation.

Some representatives, on the other hand, took the floor demanding that the government work out measures to prevent chaebols from dominating markets.

"The government, despite its promise to cut collusive links between politicians and businessmen, has pushed policies that favor chaebols in the name of boosting national competitiveness," DP lawmaker O Tan said.

Chaebols are said to have played a leading role in developing the nation but at the same time have become the target of public criticism for the increasing concentration of their economic power.

Rep. Song Yong-chin of the DLP alleged that the economic concentration by chaebols has deepened during the government's implementation of its plan to expand infrastructure facilities.

"In particular, the government's chaebol-oriented policy may become a roadblock in sharpening the nation's competitive edge by triggering bankruptcies of small business firms," Song said.

Rep. Kang Chol-son of the DP called on the government to push finance and technology support for small firms to enable them to survive in an era of increased competition.

Prospects for Businesses' Visits to North Viewed

SK0907024294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0204 GMT 9 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 9 (YONHAP)—The government is likely to allow South Korean businessmen to visit North Korea, possibly as early as August, if Pyongyang's nuclear transparency is guaranteed at the inter-Korean summit talks.

This prospect is based on the business circles' frequent requests for the government to permit Southern businessmen to visit the North.

General Trading Company staff said Saturday they plan to expand processing-on-commission trade with the North if inter-Korean relations improve with the summit serving as momentum.

They pointed out the limitations of indirect inter-Korean business contacts through China, Hong kong and Japan.

Moreover, they have reportedly asked the government through various channels to allow technicians, quality controllers and management personnel to visit North Korea.

In particular, the business circles have asked for government permission to ship South Korean production facilities to the North together with the minimum number of persons necessary for processing-on-commission trade.

South Korean businessmen have not been allowed to visit the North since the espionage case involving female spy Yi Sun-sil in October 1992. Previously, several businessmen including Hyundai group honorary Chairman Chong Chu-yong and Daewoo group Chairman Kim U- chung visited North Korea for business purposes.

A business source said the existing method of trade with North Korea requires much time and expense as "we conclude final contracts after we meet North Koreans in other countries like China, hand over samples to them, take them back and check them..."

He disclosed that most enterprises experienced in processing-on- commission trade with North Korea want to dispatch their technicians and quality controllers to the North.

An industrial research institute estimated that if the idle industrial facilities of South Korea could be relocated to the North, they would produce about 4.9 billion dollars worth of commercial goods.

Meanwhile, processing-on-commission trade with the North during the first half of this year totaled 10,125,000 dollars, 6.7 times higher than the same period in 1993.

By enterprise, Lucky-Goldstar International Corp. topped the list with 4,367,000 dollars followed by Samsung Co. and Daewoo Corp. with 2,802,000 dollars and 2,378,000 dollars, respectively.

Agent Orange Victims To Be Given Financial Aid

SK0907015494 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 9 Jul 94 p 2

[Text] Prime Minister Yi Yong-tok said yesterday that the government intends to provide financial support to victims of "Agent Orange" in their international lawsuits against U.S. makers of the toxic defoliant.

"The government will try to include the legal expense in the national budget for 1995," Yi said during the last day of an interpellation session.

An estimated 3,000 South Korean veterans are believed to be suffering from the aftereffects triggered by exposure to Agent Orange used in the Vietnam War.

Early this year, some 200 Agent Orange victims filed suits against seven U.S. chemical firms, demanding a combined total of $300 million in compensation.

Premier Yi also said the government will carry out a survey on victims of the defoliant in a move to expand compensation for them.

Responding to questions by lawmakers calling on the government to make the police force independent from the prosecution services in its investigative activities, Premier Yi said that it is undesirable for the police to be able to investigate independently in view of effective protection of human rights.

At present, police investigations are under the control and supervision of the prosecution.

Education Minister Kim Suk-hui said that the government will continue the current college entrance examination system for next year.

"The government plans to redesign the examination system after collection opinions from every sector of society," said Kim, replying to criticisms by lawmakers that the government has confused the people by adopting an inconsistent policy on the college entrance examination.

During the interpellation session on society and culture, ruling party lawmakers urged the government to strictly cope with "illegal and violent" strikes, while asking the government to ceaselessly push for an anticorruption drive.

In contrast, lawmakers of opposition parties charged that the government has depended on law-enforcement authorities too much in dealing with strikes launched by labor unions. They also criticized the government, saying it has stopped implementing the reform moves.

Rep. Nam Pyong-u of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) said, "The government should strictly deal with illegal and violent demonstrations and strikes."

He proposed that the government use civil groups to launch a campaign to reform the conscience of the people.

Rep. Yang Mun-hui of the main opposition Democratic Party (DP) asserted that the government's hard-line suppression caused railway locomotive engineers to launch a country-wide strike.

Yang urged the government to work out steps to improve labor conditions through revision of labor-related laws.

Rep. Kim Chung-hyon of the DP insisted that the government has failed to liquidate the irregularities of the past and thus brought confusion to the country.

"The government should clear up the past legacies of the May 16 military coup in 1961 and the Dec. 12 coup-like incident in 1979," said Kim.

In connection with an inter-Korean summit between South Korean President Kim Yong-sam and North Korean President Kim Il-song, scheduled for July 25-27 in Pyongyang, lawmakers also asked the government to take steps on social and cultural exchanges between the two Koreas.

Yang of the DP said, "It is desirable for the government to sign an agreement on medical exchanges."

He also proposed that the government jointly examine the ecosystem within the Demilitarized Zone with North Korea.

Rep. Kang U-hyok of the DLP alleged that brisk exchanges between the South and North in sports and cultural sectors are needed to build trust between the two Koreas.

Kang asked whether the government has any intention of proposing a soccer game between the two national teams.

'Public Outcry' Over U.S. Visa Procedure Noted

SK0907023994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0213 GMT 9 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 9 (YONHAP)—A public outcry is growing that something must be done through diplomatic channels as obtaining an American visa is becoming increasingly burdensome and time- consuming.

The situation is worse when it comes to individual visa applications without recourse to travel agents designated by the U. S. Embassy.

It normally takes as long as one month to obtain a U.S. visa. Making the process even more bothersome, applicants must report to the American Embassy no fewer than three times.

For visa interviews, lucky applicants normally have to wait for two to three hours in a long queue before their turn comes.

"Lucky" because if the day's interviews finish before someone's turn, that person must come back the following day and suffer the same inconvenience.

"It's so difficult to obtain an American visa that I am inclined to feel humiliated by the Americans," said one applicant waiting in a long queue.

Lately, people have begun to queue up along the high fence around the American Embassy in Seoul as early as 3 a.m. It is not unusual to see 1,000 people waiting in line.

As confusion grew after the U.S. Embassy drastically curtailed the number of authorized travel agents last February, the embassy introduced an "interview reservation system" last June 10.

But the system has failed to solve the problem. Long queues are formed as ever because the embassy limits daily reservation slips issued to 200.

Taking advantage of the mess, there have even appeared "black- market reservation slip dealers" who, mainly among small travel agents, sell "reservation slips" for 100,000 won apiece.

The confusion was heightened by the embassy's decision early this month to charge 20 dollars in visa handling fees for each visa application and to have travel agents deposit the fees at a single bank, Kor-Am Bank.

"This is the only country where the Americans do this," a travel agency staffer said. "In other countries, they charge visa fees along with visa application papers for the convenience of applicants."

Travel agents complain that the embassy demands too many reference papers which, besides an application form, include an employment certificate, earned income tax payment certificate, property tax payment certificate, copy of rent-house contract and even a certificate of stock transactions.

Other foreign embassies in Korea require only an application form and a copy of a residence certificate, and issue visas within a week in most cases.

"It is so burdensome to obtain American visas... I think the government should do something to rectify the situation," a travel agent said.

Australian Trade Minister Seeks Investment

SK1107074694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0654 GMT 11 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 11 (YONHAP)—Australian Trade Minister Bob McMullan said Monday that important regional opportunities exist for Australia and Korea to work together for their mutual benefit in the post-Uruguay Round trade environment.

McMullan, visiting here from July 10-12, made the remarks at a luncheon meeting sponsored by the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) attended by hundreds of leading businessmen.

He said, "Regional forums such as APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation], from Australia's perspective, provide a most valuable forum for pursuing the key trade policy objectives of trade facilitation, trade liberalization and regional engagement.

"But, there is a gap in our economic relationship.

"There is considerable potential for Korea to further diversify its commercial relationship with Australia, through increased investment, joint ventures and so on," he said.

McMullan said he would like to encourage Korean businesses to look more closely at investment opportunities down under.

He is scheduled to meet with President Kim Yong-sam and Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu on Monday, then have talks with Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Kim Chol-su on Tuesday.

Defense Minister Apologizes for Remarks on Plan

SK0707082594 Seoul YONHAP in English 0605 GMT 7 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 7 (YONHAP)—Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae apologized Thursday for alarming "residents of particular areas" by saying the government planned to use new cities North of Seoul as barricades in times of emergency.

Yi's apology came on the heels of his controversial remarks on the Capital Area Defense Plan in Tuesday's National Assembly interpellation session. The minister said then that the government was "developing a new city plan on a new concept of using new cities in the capital area as barricades in emergencies."

Speaking to the press, Yi said what he meant in his parliamentary testimony was that closed-up city buildings would be helpful to defense as they could slow the advance of attacking troops in an emergency. He went on to express regret at the misunderstanding he caused while discussing cities' contribution to defense by using military terms.

"Our defense plan calls for destroying the enemy on the front line and the Armed Forces are fully repared for this," he stressed.

Noting that the military's operating plan places top priority on ensuring citizens' safety, Yi said there could be no military operations which take residents of any particular area hostage.

Unification Minister Chairs Security Meeting

SK1407020694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0125 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—Deputy Premier-Unification Minister Yi Hong-ku reaffirmed Thursday that the Seoul government is sticking to its principle of holding the inter-Korean summit.

But Seoul will deal with the summit details depending on developments within North Korea, he said.

Yi gave the confirmation through his spokesman, Kim Hyong-ki, after chairing a unification-security policy coordination meeting. Sources said the meeting updated information on North Korea following President Kim Il-song's death and sought multi-faceted measures as his son, Chong-il, looks certain to inherit power.

The unification minister noted that at present, all North Korea has said officially was only that it would continue dialogue with the United States.

The meeting's agenda included close South Korea-U.S. consultations in resolving the North Korean nuclear dispute through dialogue as chances are high of the Pyongyang-Washington high-level talks resuming as early as next week.

Spokesman Kim said the director of the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP), Kim Tok, reported on the latest movements in North Korea and Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu on the international reaction to Kim Il-song's death.

He said the exact goings-on in North Korea will become clearer next week after Kim Il-song's funeral on Sunday.

Defense Ministry Lifts Part of 'Special Alert'

SK1407055594 Seoul YONHAP in English 0548 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry lifted part of its special alert at noon Thursday as the North Korean military has not made any particular movements since the death of Kim Il-song.

The ministry lifted the suspension of daily and overnight passes and leaves for Armed Forces members while loosening the stand-by alert for commanders and staff at command posts to stand-by within two hours' distance of the posts.

The ministry placed all South Korean Armed Forces on special alert Saturday, immediately after learning the news of North Korean leader Kim Il-song's death Friday.

National Assembly Closes Extraordinary Session

SK1407073994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0716 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 14 (YONHAP)—The National Assembly wound up its 169th extraordinary session Thursday in the wake of some important events, most notably the death of North Korean President Kim Il-song.

The parliament had been convened for the first time since the formation of line-ups from the latter part of the incumbent 14th assembly.

South Koreans' initial expectations for the 20-day special session were discolored, however, when the focus stayed on the aftermath of Kim's sudden death last week. The assembly had been planning to coordinate the positions of the ruling and opposition parties in preparation for the scheduled inter-Korean summit talks.

It seems clear that the two camps only confirmed the gap in their respective positions amid the set of new conditions created by Kim's death.

Rather than handling the situation wisely, the parties were at odds over the repercussions of Kim's passing from the scene, including a dispute over whether to send a mourning delegation to Pyongyang for his funeral.

As to Kim's death, the ruling party members were of the opinion that overall matters had to be considered from the beginning, saying "we should not forget that time is on our side."

On the other hand, the opposition insisted that the South-North dialogue should be held as soon as possible irrespective of the quality of leadership under Kim Chong-il, the son and apparent successor of the late President Kim.

These conflicting views spread to the issue of South Korea's dispatch of a mourning delegation to Pyongyang, as demanded by opposition Democratic Party lawmakers Yi Pu-yong, Yim Chae-chung and Chang Yong-tal.

The dissident activists-turned-lawmaker argued that sending a mourning delegation and paying respects to Kim are "necessary in consideration of the mental state of North Koreans after Kim's death and for future negotiations with the North under Kim Chong-il's leadership."

Their insistence brought objections from the people and the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] refuted it immediately. Indeed, DLP Spokesman Rep. Pak Pom-chin denounced the opposition party, saying the people would not accept a distortion of historic facts.

Although the opposition lawmakers later expressed regret over having created an issue, confusion remained over their stance on inter-Korean relations.

DP Legislator Said To Violate Fund Law

SK0907165794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0236 GMT 9 Jul 94

[Text] Seoul, July 9 (YONHAP)—Rep. Kim Sang-hyon of the opposition Democratic Party (DP) has turned out to have received 110 million won (about 136,700 U.S. dollars) from a person who was indicted on suspicion of fraud, prosecution sources said Saturday.

According to the sources, Rep. Kim received the money in February 1993 from Kim Mun-chan, who was arrested in July last year on suspicion of having defrauded the former chairman of Pan-ocean Shipping Co. of 10 billion won.

Kim Mun-chan, a former representative of a fisheries company, was released last February after being handed a verdict of "not guilty" at the first trial on the fraud charge, and is facing an appeal trial slated for July 22.

The sources said that if Rep. Kim had received the money for political funds without any conditions, he could be indicted and sentenced to a maximum three years' imprisonment with a 110-million- won fine according to the political fund law.

If Rep. Kim had accepted the money under certain conditions, then he could be sentenced to up to five years in prison, they said.

In the meantime, Rep. Kim said, in a meeting with reporters, "I received the money without any conditions from Kim for my political fund. But I didn't know that it violated the political fund law."

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Leaders Send Condolence Message to DPRK

BK1307134494 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1300 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] His Majesty The Yang Dipertuan Agung [Paramouunt Ruler] Tuanku Jaafar has sent a condolence message to North Korea following the death of its president, Kim Il-song. Wisma Putra [Foreign Ministry] said in his message to the late president's eldest son, Kim Chong-il, Tuanku Jaafar said Malaysia offered deepest condolences to the people of North Korea.

Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed, in his condolence message, also to Kim Chong-il, said the friendship and cooperation between Kuala Lumpur and Pyongyang had strengthened steadily during the term of the late president. Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said the two countries also share similar commitment, particularly in the Nonaligned Movement, NAM, and the promotion of greater South-South cooperation. Kim Chong-il, 52, is the secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and the supreme commander of the people's army in Korea. He is also a member of the Permanent Committee of the Political Bureau.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi, in his message, said he was deeply saddened by the news of the unexpected demise of President Kim. He added that the late president was a great leader, who had devoted his life to the welfare and the security of the people of North Korea.

'Constructive Approach' Toward Burma To Continue

BK1407083394 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0308 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 14 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia will continue with its constructive approach in dealings with Myanmar [Burma] in line with ASEAN's stand not to isolate the country, Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said Wednesday. He said Myanmar, which had already started moves towards reform including a new constitution, needed some time to change.

I believe it will come back to the fold of democracy, he told reporters after sending off Myanmar Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw at Subang Airport near here. Ohn Gyaw, who was here for a three-day official visit, has been invited to attend the ASEAN ministerial meeting in Bangkok later this month.

Singapore

BUSINESS TIMES Views Results of G-7 Summit

BK1307122194 Singapore BUSINESS TIMES in English 13 Jul 94 p 24

[Editorial: "More a photo-op than a summit"]

[Text] If the world didn't expect much from the Group of Seven (G-7) summit, which concluded in Naples on Sunday, it probably got even less. The gathering proved the cynics right by turning out to be little more than a prolonged photo opportunity. Stripped of the oratory, the agreeable-sounding communiques, the hand-shaking and the bear-hugging, little of substance remained. The only concrete initiative that seemed to emerge was an offer of financial aid to Ukraine—and even that was conditional. On other political issues, the pronouncements from Naples were bereft of either conviction or credibility. The G-7 called on the warring factions in Bosnia to accept a peaceful division of the territory, and on North Korea to remove "the suspicions surrounding (its) nuclear activities" but there was not a word on what will happen if these exhortations are not complied with.

The summiteers' economic pledges were even less earthshaking. After due discussion, they managed to agree to reduce "excessive regulations" inhibiting job creation—the question of which regulations was left a mystery—and to ratify the Uruguay Round trade agreement, something that must have been pledged at least a dozen times before. But the biggest minus of the G-7 summit was its inexplicable failure to address the most serious problem confronting the world's financial markets—namely, the diving dollar. In fact, US President Bill Clinton added to the uncertainty by announcing that he opposed action to prop up the greenback—which promptly and predictably sent the currency further down.

Some commentators suggest that the G-7's neglect of the dollar problem may be part of a Machiavellian plan to lure speculators into becoming bearish before coming down on them through concerted intervention. It seems a far-fetched idea, if for no other reason than that the Europeans, at least, are openly opposed to intervention. Moreover, intervention has been tried twice during the past month, and it has failed. Clearly more than that will be needed to stabilise the world's financial markets. The G-7's failure to provide it—or to even make a beginning—could make the Naples summit a story of missed opportunities and complacency on a grand scale.

Cambodia

House Panel Barred From Visiting Detained Thais

BK1407090894 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Jul 94 p A8

[Text] Phnom Penh—Cambodia will not allow members of Thailand's House Committee on Foreign Affairs to visit the 14 Thais held in Phnom Penh as it is a case of national security, Interior Minister Yu Hokkri said yesterday.

The minister said that he has kept in touch with Thai Ambassador Sakthip Krairoek about the 14 Thais detained since July 3 on suspicion that they supported the abortive coup attempt early this month.

"So, if the Thai House committee want to know their feelings, they should ask Mr Sakthip, who is the representative of the Kingdom of Thailand," Yu Hokkri said.

The foreign affairs committee led by its chairman Dr Krasae Chanawong, announced it would make a one-day trip to Phnom Penh today. It was to pay courtesy calls on Cambodia's co-premiers, Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, Finance Minister Sam Rangsi and Foreign Affairs Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut. The 20-member team is seeking Cambodia's permission to meet the Thais, who have been detained at a guesthouse in Cambodia's capital.

"The second round of investigation will take more than a week," Yu Hokkri told reporters.

Sakthip yesterday met the 14 Thais being detained in Phnom Penh. It was his second meeting with them. Sakthip said Cambodian investigators will complete their questioning tomorrow and then make a report to the two defence ministers on Friday. He said the suspects were being properly cared for. "They are all in good shape."

Asked whether the Cambodian government would allow more visits by the Thai side to the captives, Yu Hokkri stressed that it is a matter of national security and he is not going to allow too frequent visits. Visits would be allowed "from time to time, but not every day", as it is a security problem, said the minister.

Yu Hokkri, an MP from the royalist Funcinpec [National United Front For An Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party, said his government would not be spending money on their accommodation and meals if it had no reason to detain the Thais.

However, a senior minister of the Cambodia People's Party [CPP] dealing with security said the first round of investigations showed that most of the Thais were not involved in the coup attempt. But when they were allowed to leave, they refused, saying that they wanted to return as a group.

Cambodia's coalition government is controlled by two major parties, Prince Ranariddh's Funcinpec and the CPP of Hun Sen.

Paper Cites Evidence of Thai Support for Coup

BK1307153094 Phnom Penh CAMBODIA TIMES in English 10-16 Jul 94 p 4

[Text] PHNOM PENH—Investigations into the recent ill-fated coup attempt has revealed that the plotters probably had the support of neighboring Thailand and Vietnam. The coup attempt was doomed due to a betrayal on the Vietnamese side. According to the intelligence service, Sin Song and Prince Norodom Chakkrapong had sought military assistance from the Vietnamese army of the Seventh Military Zone which borders the Cambodian eastern province of Svay Rieng.

The Vietnamese side rejected their request while informing the Royal Government of the coup attempt.

Chay Sangyun, Secretary of State for National Defense, was told by coup leaders to arrest or kill three Generals of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces ie. General Nhoek Bunchhai, General Pan Thai and General Kruoch Yoeum.

But this plot was in vain, as on July 2 the government knew beforehand and collected all military commanders to a building where they could send command to soldiers to stop about 200 or 300 coup soldiers in 12 APC heading from Chheu Kach, Prey Veng Province, for the capital city.

A senior government official who declined to be identified said: "There is evidence that Prince Chakkrapong and Sin Song had the support of Thailand and this suspicion has been further strengthened by the detention of at least 16 Thai nationals who were reportedly in Sin Song's residence.

Government spokesman Veng Sereivut when contacted by the CAMBODIA TIMES said: "The detention of the Thai nationals by the Ministry of Interior suggests Thai involvement."

"As for Vietnamese support, investigations are still proceeding and until concrete evidence is obtained or discovered, it will be premature to confirm or deny their support."

Prince Chakkrapong, the former Deputy Prime Minister before the elections and General Sin Song, the former Interior Minister, were said to have extensive political, business and personal contacts with the two nations.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Interior and other relevant ministries, should get to the bottom of the alleged foreign involvement in the coup attempt," the official said.

Rumours of a coup attempt began to arise several months ago.

In fact, a leading Thai English daily in an editorial had said that the possibility of a coup was strong given the current political situation then.

Investigations have also revealed that senior officials of the Interior Ministry have also been linked to the plot.

This comes in the wake of denial by the Information Ministry spokesman Sieng Lapresse that Deputy Prime Minister and Co-Minister of the Interior, Sar Kheng, was not involved in the coup attempt.

Nevertheless, questions were raised as to the extent of loyalty in the Interior Ministry where many staff were reportedly silent supporters of General Sin Song, a legacy from the inheritance of the government machinery from the past.

Businesses Express Concern Over New Tax Scales

BK1307115294 Phnom Penh CAMBODIA TIMES in English 10-16 Jul 94 p 14

[Text] PHNOM PENH—Local businesses have expressed fears over the implementation of new taxations or enforcing old ones suddenly, in an environment which is already facing a decline as a result of negative reports on the country.

Several businessmen when contacted said that they hoped that with normalcy returning to the nation, clear taxation policies and trade regimes would be implemented with advance warnings or notice given before its implementation.

Individual expatriates, long used to earning tax-free salaries also expressed fears that they will be seen as "cash-cows" by the Finance Ministry.

The Finance Minister has said that personal income tax proposed are five per cent on salaries between US$3,600 and US$4,800 per annum, 15 per cent for salaries between US$4,800 and US$48,000 per annum, 20 per cent on salaries between US$48,000 and US$96,000 per annum and 30 per cent for annual salaries above US$96,000.

While welcoming the need for the implementation of income tax to boost the national coffers to meet current and developmental expenditures, they said that the variance between the salaries were vast.

For example, a person earning US$400 per month will be paying the same 15 per cent tax as a person earning US$4,000 a month. These variances need to be looked into.

They also raised queries as to the manner of implementation of these personal income tax and the implementation date. The possibility of double taxation was also raised.

Meanwhile, businessmen generally said that although the government was entitled to tax businesses and goods, it should be against the norm as businesses were already facing a difficult time with port clearance and airport clearance goods.

"They can tax us business houses as they need revenue for current and other expenses. [sentence as published] However, the Finance Minister should consider the present business climate where purchasing power has been reduced and competition increasing."

"The Ministry and relevant authorities should hold regular dialogue sessions with businesses and other trade personnel, including foreign embassy trade attaches to gauge the sentiments of foreign and local businesses here," one importer of food products said.

Local Airline Expands Operations in Region

BK1407062994 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 14 Jul 94 p 4

[Text] Om Sambat, deputy chief of the Cambodia International Airline (CIA), revealed that the company expanded its operations by starting a regular weekly flight to Vientiane in Laos. The company is also making plans to fly to London and Malaysia's capital.

CIA inaugurated its flight to Vientiane on 6 July using a Boeing 737 aircraft to serve customers on this route.

Sambat told REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA: To start its operation in Laos, the company plans to have only one flight a week, every Wednesday. The company recently operated flights to Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), Bangkok, Hong Kong, and Singapore.

In the company's future plans, the deputy chief says that CIA will start flights to Hanoi (Vietnam), London (Britain), Kuala Lumpur and Langkawi (Malaysia). Permission, however, is being sought from the royal government.

Neighboring countries, Laos, Vietnam, Thailand, and other Asian countries have airlines flying to Cambodia. The royal government does not seem to think about reciprocating flights. This represents a great loss of business even though the service is run by private companies. The government recently rented only one aircraft from France to serve the Phnom Penh-Siem Reap route; each month the government earns around 100,000 dollars. CIA is a joint venture of Thai and local companies and not joint venture with the state.

The royal government sent a letter in March suggesting the suspension of CIA and SK Air operations a week before the Royal Airline of Cambodia (RAC) starts operations in July. However, CIA is continuing its operations now that the RAC is not yet in a position to operate because talks between the government and Singapore have not yet been concluded. The royal government has set up RAC because it wants to have only one joint venture in the country and one in which the parties taking part have the possibility to develop this sector. If other companies are allowed to run the business, the state is the losing side because companies think only about business and do not care about developing the country. Moreover, some of those taking part in this business are people holding power.

Indonesia

Police Disperse Demonstration by E. Timorese

BK1407063694 Hong Kong AFP in English 0605 GMT 14 Jul 94

[By Antariksawan Jusuf]

[Text] JAKARTA, July 14 (AFP)—Anti-riot police in East Timor on Thursday violently dispersed a demonstration marching from the University of East Timor to the local parliament to protest a series of religious conflicts, an East Timorese source said.

Police and military units dressed in riot gear stopped about 500 demonstrators, most of them students, from marching the 300 metres (yards) that separate the campus from the parliament buildings in provincial capital Dili, the source, a professor at the university who did not want to be named, told AFP by telephone.

The professor said an estimated 30 people had been arrested but the exact figure was not known because many others had been taken away by local police.

The demonstrators were protesting a series of religious incidents which occurred between local Moslems and Roman Catholics, said the professor.

The marchers were carrying banners which said : "Long live Jesus, Long live the Catholic church," and "Indonesia is not a state based on religion."

East Timor, a former Portuguese enclave which was annexed by Jakarta in 1976, is about 90 percent Catholic, while about 85 percent of Indonesia's 180 million population is Moslem.

Some of the protesters were beaten with batons and taken away by security personnel, the professor said, adding that in the panic 50 marchers sought refuge in the military barracks, where they have been detained.

A source at the Wirahusada military hospital in Dili said that eight people, three of them students, were being treated at the hospital for minor injuries.

"Now the university as well as the parliament are totally surrounded by police and military," the source said, adding that hundreds of students were trapped on the campus.

Thousands of civilian onlookers in the streets were watching security officials guarding the university and parliament, the source said, adding that some shouted slogans, including demands for a separate state.

The demonstration was prompted by an incident on Wednesday at the university in which a group of Moslem students of Javanese origin were accused by Catholic students of having offended two nuns who were taking an entrance exam.

Three of the group were badly beaten and had to be hospitalised, according to a report in the East Timorese daily Suara Timor Timur (Voice of East Timor) on Thursday. Military sources said the Moslem students were only wounded while other sources said one of them was killed.

Shortly after the Wednesday incident, East Timor Vice Governor Brigadier General Johannes Haribowo went to the campus in an attempt to calm the students.

In a separate incident Tuesday, more than 300 East Timorese carrying crucifixes and images of the Virgin Mary took to the streets to protest against two Moslem soldiers who stamped on communion wafers during a mass at Saint Joseph church in Remexio, a small town south of Dili, on June 28.

The two soldiers, identified only as privates Nurcahyo and Bakhrul Alum, would be court martialled, according to Udayana military region commander Major General Adang Ruchiatna.

Calm Said To Return to Dili

BK1407102994 Hong Kong AFP in English 1015 GMT 14 Jul 94

[By Antariksawan Jusuf]

[Text] Jakarta, July 14 (AFP)—Calm returned to the East Timor capital Dili late Thursday as a demonstration against a series of religious conflicts wound down and security forces were dismissed, an East Timorese source said.

"The anti-riot police is no longer here," said the source, a professor at the university who declined to be identified.

Earlier Thursday, anti-riot police stopped about 500 demonstrators, most of them students, from marching the 300 metres (yards) that separate the campus from the parliament buildings in provincial capital Dili.

The demonstrators were protesting a series of religious incidents which occurred between local Muslims and Roman Catholics, the professor said.

The marchers carried banners which said: "Long live Jesus, Long live the Catholic church," and "Indonesia is not a state based on religion."

East Timor, a former Portuguese colony which was annexed by Jakarta in 1976, is about 90 percent Catholic, while about 88 percent of Indonesia's 186 million population is Muslim.

The professor said that 14 demonstrators were still being detained by police, while six others were being held at a military barracks.

A three-member delegation, including International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) representative in East Timor Symeon Antoulas, a university official and Father Mario from an East Timor church, had sought information from the authorities on the 20 people held.

Another eight demonstrators, who suffered minor injuries when security forces violently broke up the march, were being treated at the Wirahusada military hospital.

The demonstration was prompted by an incident on Wednesday at the university in which a group of Muslim students of Javanese origin were accused by Catholic students of having offended two nuns who were taking an entrance exam.

Three of the group were badly beaten and had to be hospitalised, according to a report in the East Timorese daily Suara Timor Timur (Voice of East Timor) on Thursday. Military sources said the Muslim students were only wounded while other sources, close to East Timorese opponents, said they were in fact members of the military intelligence and that one of them was killed.

Shortly after the Wednesday incident, East Timor Vice Governor Brigadier General Johannes Haribowo went to the campus in an attempt to calm the students.

In a separate event Tuesday, more than 300 East Timorese carrying crucifixes and images of the Virgin Mary took to the streets to protest against two Muslim soldiers who stamped on communion wafers during a mass at Saint Joseph church in Remexio, a small town south of Dili on June 28.

The two soldiers, identified only as privates Nurcahyo and Bakhrul Alum, would be court martialled, according to Bali-based Udayana military region commander Major General Adang Rukiatna.

UN Representative Concludes East Timor Visit

BK1407011994 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1814 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Text] Jakarta, Jul 12 (OANA-ANTARA)—UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions Bacre Waly Ndiaye has said he will publicly announce the results of his visit to East Timor in the next three months as he still has to report them to the UN Commission on Human Rights.

Ndiaye, who has just concluded a five-day visit to the province, told the press here Thursday the purpose of his visit was not to conduct an investigation but to monitor how a country implements and promotes "the right to life."

He said he had seen that this right in East Timor had been implemented according to the standards set by the UN Commission on Human Rights. But he could not disclose substantive matters regarding his visit as he still needed several documents and held discussions amongst others with Justice Minister Utoyo Usman and Foreign Minister Ali Alatas on Wednesday (July 13).

Ndiaye met with detainees of the November 12, 1991 incident and several society members in Dili, Viqueque, and Osue during his five-day stay in the province.

He met with jailed Fretilin [Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor] leader Xanana Gusmao in Jakarta prior to his visit to East Timor.

"Xanana is in good condition," Ndiaye said. "There is no special message (from Xanana) that I can convey to the UN Commission on Human Rights. Of course, my mission is not to convey Xanana's message," he said.

Ndiaye has been in Indonesia since July 3 for a 10-day visit at the invitation of the Indonesian Government extended at the 50th session of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva last March. Ndiaye has been UN special rapporteur since 1992.

* Japan Said To Lack Understanding of E. Timor

[Editorial Report] The 9 June SUARA KARYA in Indonesian on page 3 stated that many circles in Japan, including the press, do not understand the integration of East Timor into Indonesia. Many organizations in several Japanese cities reportedly support the "independence of East Timor." The paper said this is proof that many Japanese have a "distorted view" of the 1976 integration of the former Portuguese colony. The Japanese media, including the NHK television network, have used the words "annexation" or "invasion" to describe the process of East Timor's integration into Indonesia. In the minds of many Japanese, the paper noted, Indonesia "invaded" and "occupied" East Timor and "curtailed the freedom of its people" to perform their religious duties. What the Japanese are not aware of, the paper continued, is while there were only 100 churches when Portugal left East Timor in 1974, there are now nearly 800 churches, including a cathedral in Dili. The Japanese media have often referred to East Timor as a "Catholic territory" even though the people living on the islands of East Nusa Tenggara, including Timor, are traditionally Catholics.

* Suharto Reaffirms Confidence in ABRI

94SE0162B Jakarta BISNIS INDONESIA in Indonesian 10 Jun 94 p 16

[Text] Bandar Lampung (BISNIS INDONESIA)—President Suharto has appointed B.J. Habibie, minister of state for research and technology and chairman of the BPPT [Technological Research and Development Board], as chairman of the Ship Construction Team (TPK) supervising the conversion of former East German naval vessels. He said that he had not made this appointment because he does not trust officers of the Ministry of Defense and Security or of ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces].

The chief of state made this statement on 9 June on board KRI [Republic of Indonesia Ship] Teluk Banten after laying the cornerstone for the construction of buildings at the Indonesian Naval Base at Teluk Ratai. On this occasion Minister B.J. Habibie turned over five former East German Navy ships to Minister of Defense and Security Edi Sudradjat, who then assigned them to Admiral Tanto Kuswanto, chief of staff of the Indonesian Navy.

President Suharto said on this occasion: "Habibie was appointed because he is well known to German officials and private businessmen."

According to the president, Habibie originally knew nothing of this matter. He said, "Therefore, there was no need to make a fuss about the appointment of the minister of research and technology."

Building up the strength of the Indonesian Armed Forces is very important to protect the results of the development program. He said that officers of the Indonesian Armed Forces have been asked to adapt themselves to development priorities.

According to the president, the naval base at Teluk Ratai will be built in phases to accommodate the former East German warships.

The hope that officers of the Indonesian Armed Forces, and especially of the Indonesian Navy, would adapt themselves to development priorities is an important matter because, according to the president, a budget allocation of at least 13 trillion rupiahs will be required.

The president said: "Officers of the Indonesian Armed Forces and particularly of the Indonesian Navy must adapt themselves to development priorities, that is, economic progress to improve the people's welfare."

Based on Presidential Instruction 3 of 1992, which was issued on 3 September 1992, President Suharto ordered the purchase of 39 former East German warships, consisting of 16 corvettes, 14 LST's [Landing Ship Tanks], and nine minesweepers. The overall cost of the ships was $482 million. The opportunity to meet with ABRI officers was also used by the chief of state to explain that the process of purchasing the warships was decided on particularly after contact was made with Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor.

The president said: "Frankly, information on the warships did not come from our intelligence sources or our officials but from our private businessmen."

After receiving assurances from the private businessmen that they would obtain no commissions from the information which they provided, the chief of state then asked Habibie to seek fuller and more detailed data.

The chief of state confirmed that the process of purchasing the 39 warships, which was handled secretly, caused consternation, particularly because there were certain people who did not know much in detail about this matter but made comments anyway, which ultimately caused concern.

The president said: "People who half understood this matter and then expressed opinions simply confused the situation, incited other people, and created an atmosphere of mistrust which disturbed national stability."

In the early portion of his speech the President said that Indonesia must have a well established fleet because two-thirds of the country's territorial area is covered by water, connecting about 17,000 islands.

Ways To Solve Ban on Publications Discussed

BK1407093294 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 1 Jul 94 p 4

[Editorial: "Two Options Are Open: The Issuance of New Permits Through Law or a Compromise"]

[Text] The government will not rescind the letter containing the decision by Information Minister Harmoko to ban the weekly TEMPO, DETIK, and EDITOR. If the parties concerned feel that they have not benefited as a result of the ban, then they should take their case to the National Administrative Court.

Information Minister Harmoko made the clarification during a meeting with the House of Representatives Parliamentary Commission I. According to the minister, there is another alternative, which is to issue new permits for the journalists and employees of the banned publications.

The clarification indicates that a way is open for the banned publications which had their permits revoked by the government. The legal procedure would be to tender their case to the legal sector. However, another possibility exists, which is, following negotiations, for new permits to be issued to the publishers affected by the ban.

The publishers of the banned magazines have preferred to solve the issue through negotiations and a compromise instead of going through the legal process by submitting their case to the government. They have preferred to embark on such a move even though two options are open for them.

What was their reason for such a choice? It was because a pragmatic consideration is more advantageous to the prevailing situation. Experience shows that the process of solving the issue will be faster through a compromise and with due regard for the prevailing situation. The problems facing the journalists and workers can be solved through such a method. This method is preferable to one that loses all the privileges.

Such a pragmatic solution would not be ideal under the principles of the due process of law [three preceding words in English]. It could even be regarded as weakening the process of upholding the law and its credibility.

A legal process would be the ideal solution, including submitting the case to the National Administrative Court. However, this way it would take a longer time for the case to be heard and solved given the current state of affairs.

There is no guarantee as to which side would win the case because if such a case was based on the existing law, particularly based on on the technical aspects of law, it would show that there was sufficient basis and justification for revoking the publishing permit.

The case would be totally different if the context of press freedom were highlighted. In this case, numerous interpretations could emerge from various sectors. The question of greater freedom would definitely be accompanied by a heavier political impact.

The publishers, who are facing the problem, are considered as too individualistic in their struggle. Their basic views and attitudes nay be similar, but their respective methods of solving the issue are in conflict.

Past experience has shown that a more justifiable format for solving such an issue would be either through a give and take [preceding three words in English] manner or through negotiations and together facing all the implications.

The crisis will gradually abate if the problem facing the three affected publishers is solved through a compromise or negotiations.

Currently, the case is causing conflicting views among the press and its impact has been noted. The issue is considered to have developed into a political issue and this has been an serious setback for the basic journalistic norms.

However, we can only solve the issue after the political impact has died down.

This means that there is a justifiable but pressing need to request the experts on legal affairs to review the actual position regarding the laws and regulations governing the Indonesian press.

Their findings could then be debated by the members of parliament and probably by the members of the press through several of their organizations or associations.

At least we can assert that our people and country are undergoing reforms and development as a result of our mutual evaluations and considerations. Every time a decision is made or a regulation or law on the economy is reformed, it is formulated in compatibility with the our country's economic development and progress. Such an undertaking is also necessary with regard to the other sectors.

Philippines

MNLF: Abu Sayyaf Chief Fled to Malaysia

BK1307121894 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 10 Jul 94 p 5

[By Romie A. Evangelista]

[Text] Abu Sayyaf Muslim fundamentalist leader Abdujarak Abubakar Janjalani has fled from Sulu to Malaysia using the southern backdoor with aide of some Pakistanis who posed as preachers, the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) has told the military.

Marines Col. Ponciano Millena, commander of Task Force Sulbat (Sulu, Basilan, and Tawi Tawi), said intelligence reports emanating from MNLF people based in Jolo said four Pakistanis met Janjalani in Maimbong and helped facilitate the latter's escape reportedly to Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

Millena said Janjalani's escape came when reports came out that at least 38 Pakistanis went to Zamboanga City last 28 and 29 June on board Philippine Airlines flights and allegedly met with some contact men of Abu Sayyaf in the city.

"In Jolo, unconfirmed reports which came from the MNLF said Janjalani was brought out of the country by Pakistanis. The four Pakistanis, who posed as preachers, met the Abu Sayyaf leader in Maimbong but they can say the exact date," Millena said. [sentence as published]

When it heard about the report, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Southern Command directed the Zamboanga PNP [Philippine National Police] to check foreigners in Jolo, Sulu and bring them back to Zamboanga City when the Pakistanis were sighted in Jolo. But the PNP feedback indicated that the Pakistanis have already slipped out of Jolo and are now out of the country.

Millena, however, said there are other reports which tended to contradict the MNLF information.

"The military still believes that he (Janjalani) is in the areas of Talipao and Maimbung...informations are now cropping up along that line. We have confirmed it already," Millena told reporters at Camp Crame yesterday.

Millena attended yesterday's turnover ceremonies at the PNP headquarters. Deputy Director General Recaredo Sarmiento II assumed the chief PNP post from Director General Umberto Rodriguez.

According to Millena, the military will have a hard time getting Janjalani if it is positive that the Abu Sayyaf leader is still in Maimbung or Talipao.

"Remember, we cannot just get him (Janjalani) because he is in the heartland of the MNLF," Millena said.

With this problem, Millena said the military is planning to negotiate with the MNLF about going into their area of operations and launch an operation.

"We can ask the MNLF what they are doing. We also plan to ask them to prevent the Abu Sayyaf from getting reinforcements from the rebel group which is reportedly recruiting disgruntled MNLF members to their side," Millena said.

Earlier reports said the Abu Sayyaf is getting financial support from foreign countries, one of which now appears to be from Pakistan. And based on these reports, several foreigners, most of them Pakistanis, have been picked up for questioning by the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation and the police.

In Cotabato City, local Islamic preachers, known as Tableeghs, have asked President Fidel Ramos to stop the ongoing "discriminatory" crackdown on Muslim foreigners in the south in connection with the government operations against the extremist Abu Sayyaf.

The appeal came in a manifesto which several Tableeghs from all over Mindanao furnished to Malacanang [presidential office] and other establishments including the media last week.

"Da'wa (Islamic preaching) is our sole business and there's nothing else beyond that," said Abdullah Rashid Al-Fatah, one of the signatories who were enraged over the recent rounding up in Mindanao of nationals from neighboring Muslim countries.

Al-Fatah said President Ramos should intervene and stop the "harassment on visiting Muslim preachers," adding that such actions would constitute a "religious offense."

Five Muslim foreigners, whom authorities suspected to be in cahoots with the Abu Sayyaf rebels, were arrested separately in various parts of the country last week.

Two of the arrested, El Sayed Higazi Mohammed El Sayed, 41, and Gouionah Abdul Sami Mohammed Loft, both Egyptians, were freed immediately for lack of evidence linking them to the extremists.

Still being questioned were Jordanian engineer Tareq Ismael, 27, whom immigration agents tagged as "undocumented alien;" 45-year-old Iranian Shansodin Hosseine, suspected as an adviser and financier of the Abu Sayyaf; and, Pakistani Sayyed Hassan Sha.

Jordanian Suspected of Aiding Abu Sayyaf Arrested

BK1407025594 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 9 Jul 94 pp 1, 10

[Excerpt] A third foreigner, a Jordanian, was arrested by immigration agents in Zamboanga City Thursday on suspicion of involvement with the Abu Sayyaf, kidnappers of Fr. Cerilo Nacorda.

Immigration agents Mama Kasan and Roseller Zaavedra, in a report from Zamboanga, identified the Jordanian as Tareq S. Ismael, said to be an engineer with a Philippine address at Sta. [Santa] Catalina Street, Zamboanga City. It was not known how long he has been in the country.

Aida de los Santos, a staffer of the Jordanian embassy, confirmed Ismael was Jordanian, saying he had applied for the renewal of his passport, which expired on 15 May. She said the embassy did not know if Ismael was involved with the Abu Sayyaf, and would ask the military to "clarify" the matter.

De los Santos said the embassy gave Ismael a certified copy of his passport and renewal application to serve as his temporary documents. Two other foreigners arrested earlier in connection with the Abu Sayyaf were Sayyed Hassan Sha, a Pakistani, and Shamsodin Hossein, an Iranian. [passage omitted]

Agreements With Taipei To Increase Trade

BK1307120894 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 9 Jul 94 p 17

[Text] Manila and Taipei have agreed to pursue the formation of a "growth area" between Luzon and Greater China that will include Taiwan, Hong Kong, Coastal China, and Hainan.

Trade and Industry Undersecretary Tomas I. Alcantara said, this was one of the agreements reached during the Third Manila-Taipei Economic Conference held in Manila recently. The concept of a free trade agreement or a growth area arrangement with Taiwan was initiated by the Philippines through House Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr.

Alcantara said the concept would likely be patterned after the successful growth triangles in other ASEAN countries. However, details of the proposal have yet to be discussed, including possible trade and tariff concessions that may be granted to participating areas.

In the same meeting, economic officials of the two countries also agreed to more than double the two-way trade between the Philippines and Taiwan over the next two years.

Bilateral trade between the two countries was placed at $1.39 billion. This will be increased by 115 percent to $3 billion by 1996.

Alcantara said this would be made possible through more Philippine exports of processed food and electronic components, and increased purchases from Taiwan of capital equipment, chemicals, and textile products.

Also concluded was the agreement on a textile quota swap arrangement between the Philippines and Taiwan, which is in connection with the plan of certain Taiwanese textile companies to relocate their operations in the Philippines.

Other agreements reached during the conference included:
—A formal agreement, which will be signed on 15 July, that will promote the Philippines as a prime tourist destination of the Taiwanese;
—The collaboration on the improvement of access to Taiwan's biotechnology, plant and animal breeding techniques, and the development of new plant and animal varieties;
—The sending of a Filipino mission to Taiwan to look at certain agribusiness operations including pulp and paper using bagasse, orchids and cutflower business, and yeast production out of yeast;
—The holding of a joint agribusiness machinery exhibit in Davao in November this year;
—The convention in August of a Philippines-Taiwan panel to discuss a fisheries agreement, and the opening up of the Taiwanese market for skilled Filipino workers;
—A technical cooperation agreement between the weather bureaus of the two countries; and,
—The opening up of an advance flight training in the Philippines that will service Taiwanese airlines.

Plan To Synchronize ASEAN Economic Planning

BK1407100294 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 12 Jul 94 p 2

[Text] Government is spearheading a grand design to synchronize economic development planning among Southeast Asian countries. This was indicated yesterday by National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Director-General Cielito Habito who said the idea was firmed up in a recent meeting of the ASEAN standing committee.

"We will work for an economic complementation," Mr. Habito pointed out. "We don't want to duplicate the efforts of others." The measure will complement the borderless economy which will operate in the next few years.

Groundwork for a pan-ASEAN economic plan is expected to be laid down during a scheduled economic planners' meeting within the year, he added.

The plan is a bigger version of the "growth triangles" emerging in the region—the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) and the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand (IMT) growth triangle, Mr. Habito explained.

Unlike the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), which is currently on its implementation stage, the pan-ASEAN economic plan will concentrate more on infrastructure and investments, rather than trade, cooperation.

"We will study the regional trend where we will pinpoint areas of cooperation among ASEAN nations," Mr. Habito said.

Citing the example of BIMP-EAGA, the plan will consist of air and sea transport linkages as well as mutual promotion of industrial, telecommunications, tourism, and even cultural exchanges, he added.

The Southeast Asian region has been touted as the most dynamic region in the world with potential for economic growth exceeding that of America and Japan. Its cultural proximity to the Greater China belt—Taiwan, Hong Kong and mainland China—has further enhanced its potential.

Ramos Holds News Conference; Discusses Exports

BK1307113794 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in English 0716 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Weekly news conference by President Fidel V. Ramos with domestic and foreign reporters at Malacanang Palace in Manila—live; passage in italics in Tagalog]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Ramos] We have been encouraging the holding of a national export summit. This is the initiative of Secretary Navarro of the Department of Trade and Industry as well as the Philippine Export Council. And that this is both the official and the private sectors combining. This will take place on the 18th of July with the executive, the legislative, and the private sector working together.

Now, among the things that we would like to promote is the continued improvement of the export and the investment sectors. Exports during the last first quarter of 1994 went up by some 15 percent, which is above our projections.

As far as investments are concerned, we have some very encouraging numbers also. Because for the second quarter, these were already second quarter *since the first quarter had already registered 4.8 percent, isn't it?* But for April, May, June—second quarter of 1994—on investments, some 194.4 billion pesos worth of investments representing 47,000 plus job opportunities have been approved by the Board of Investments. And this represents equity investment that is some 1,200 percent over the similar period last year. And of the investments, the majority are local, or the biggest jump is in the local equity investments. Bigger even than the jump in foreign equity investments. So, these are good signs, ladies and gentlemen. [passage omitted]

RAM, Government Peace Panels Discuss Reforms

BK1407060294 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 9 Jul 94 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] Officials of the rightist Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance] (RAM) and the government peace panel met yesterday with Commission on Elections (Comelec) representatives on the first phase of the substantive part of the peace negotiations which dealt mainly on the issue of political reforms.

Prof. Alfredo F. Tadiar, chief of the government panel in talks with the RAM, said that yesterday's dialogue between the rightists, the government panel, and the Comelec was a positive sign on the ongoing peace process since the RAM showed up "in full force."

"All of them (RAM) were present in the dialogue," Tadiar said.

On the issue of electoral reform, the RAM panel proposed before the Comelec representatives led by Sonia Barros an "anti-dynasty" provision that would eventually allow only one member of the family, up to the fourth degree (cousins), to run or hold an elective post.

"They (RAM) wanted a law that would prevent the establishment of political dynasties covering the national and local levels," Tadiar said.

The RAM panel, led by Brig. Gen. Edgardo Abenina, in an effort to strengthen the country's political party system, also made proposals that would prevent political turncoatism.

Among the RAM officials present in the dialogue were former Navy Captain Proceso Maligalig, retired Col. Jess Paredes, former PC [Philippine Constabulary] Lieutenant Colonel Billy Bibit, former Army Colonel Vic Erfe, former Army Major Abraham Puruganan, and former Army Lieutenant Colonel Rafael Galvez.

Tadiar said the Comelec representatives submitted a position paper to the RAM-government group, in response to the rightists' proposed electoral code.

The Comelec appeared to be very receptive to the proposal for electoral reforms by the RAM, he said. However, Tadiar expressed doubts if the RAM's proposals will be implemented "because many political personalities will be affected."

The RAM officials and the government panel will again meet on Friday next week at the University of the Philippines in Quezon City with the Comelec representatives, who will then submit another report before the two panels on their reactions to the proposals on electoral reforms. [passage omitted]

Government Approves Power Plant for Airport

BK1407035494 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 11 Jul 94 p B-3

[Text] The Power Generation of the Philippines, Inc. will put up a 24-megawatt (MW) power plant with P164.33 million [Philippine pesos] inside the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

The project will be carried out through the Build-Operate-Own scheme within a 15-year period. The entire power to be generated by the plant will be sold to the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA).

The application of Power Gen, a 100 percent Filipino firm owned by businessman Jackson V. Malapas, was approved by the Board of Investments (BOI) Friday making it eligible to enjoy non-pioneer incentives.

The proposed plant will use Bunker C fuel with an initial capacity of 12 MW to 18 MW expandable to up to 24 MW.

For continuous and stable supply of power, the plant will generate output voltage adoptable to the existing nominal voltage.

The construction of the plant will start late this year while its commissioning will commence on May 1995. Bulk of Power Gen's investments worth P81 million will be used for the construction of the facility, while P51 million will be used for the purchase of equipment. The rest will be spent for dismantling and freight.

MIAA will use Meralco [Manila Electric Company] as its standby energy source in cases where the power plant is out of commission. It will also shoulder standby energy fee that Meralco will charge for reserve standby capacity.

Power Gen's power supply to MIAA will be 40 percent cheaper than the prevailing rate of Meralco.

Among the perks granted by BOI to Power Gen are four-year income tax holiday, duty-free importation of capital equipment until December this year, and tax credit on domestic capital equipment.

Thailand

ASEAN Expected To Sign Fund, Food Agreements

BK1407043294 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jul 94 p 7

[Text] Members of ASEAN are expected to sign two agreements aimed at strengthening cooperation during the forthcoming ministerial meeting in Bangkok, Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan said yesterday.

ASEAN Department director-general Laksanachanthon Laohaphan said the "ASEAN Food Security Reserve Agreement" was intended to develop cooperation and support between members during times of need and emergency.

She said a recent meeting of food experts had suggested expanding the size of food stocks—rice and oil—and the range of goods in order to cover the changing needs in the region.

The second agreement calls for the establishment of an ASEAN Fund managed by the ASEAN Secretariat to which each member company will contribute US$6 million for joint regional projects.

The fund in the past was reserved in each national account.

An ASEAN source said the idea of transferring the national accounts into a central fund would increase the authority of the ASEAN Secretariat.

Ms Laksanachanthon said China's Consultative Partnership would be formalised during the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and regular meetings between China and ASEAN would be held throughout the year focusing on trade, investment, science and technology.

"The reason we will formalise China's status first is because China is ready. Russia still has its internal problems," she said.

Ms Laksanachanthon said ASEAN and Australia will sign a memorandum of understanding during a post-ministerial meeting for regional assistance from July 1994-1998 with total funding of [Australian Dollars] A$32 million.

ASEAN currently has six major regional development schemes which have had their feasibility studies earmarked for 60 per cent of the funding.

"Most of the projects focus on the environment, science and technology and telecommunications which need up to A$3 million each," she said.

Ms Laksanachanthon said the other 40 per cent will go to small projects in the private sector which may need support when exploring market opportunities and investments in the region.

Format of ASEAN Ministers' Meeting Changed

BK1407083494 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Jul 94 p A5

[Text] The ASEAN annual meetings this year should be less "arduous" for participants because of changes in the format of some sessions.

The ASEAN Post Ministerial Meetings, a consultative forum between ASEAN and its seven dialogue partners to be held after the ASEAN Ministerial Meetings, will adopt formats requiring fewer than all six ministers at meetings with individual dialogue countries, said the Director-General of the Department of East Asian Affairs, Don Pramutwinai.

Under the previous format, six ASEAN ministers met together in one session with the seven dialogue countries and also met with each dialogue country in seven separate sessions, all of which would take three days.

The seven dialogue partners are the European Union, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and South Korea.

Under the newly-devised format, which will cut the process to two days, the six-plus-seven meeting will remain the same while the six-plus-one sessions will be replaced by a three-plus-one format comprising the dialogue country and the three ASEAN ministers whose countries are past, present and future coordinators of that dialogue country. The other three ASEAN countries will be represented by their senior officials, Don said.

"This is to avoid overtaxing our foreign ministers," Don said.

The new format partly emulates the European Union whose representatives at international meetings comprise past, present and future presidents of the European Parliament who are appointed on a rotational basis.

According to Don, a simplified format will also be applied to ASEAN meetings with its consultative partners—China, Russia, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

He said one ASEAN minister instead of six will be assigned to meet with each consultative counterpart. The consultative meetings will be held during the ASEAN Ministerial Meetings which are set for July 22 and 23.

He said it was uncertain whether ASEAN dialogue partners would appreciate the new formats as they may feel the presence of all six ASEAN ministers was an indication of the importance attached to them as dialogue partners.

ASEAN Role in Rangoon-Suu Kyi Talks Urged

BK1407084794 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Jul 94 p A6

[Editorial: "ASEAN Too Can Play Role in Slorc-Suu Kyi Talks"]

[Text] The powerful head of Burma's military intelligence, Lt Gen Khin Nyunt has agreed to meet the country's leading dissident, Aung San Suu Kyi, the NEW YORK TIMES reported on Tuesday.

The intelligence chief said the meeting would take place "at an appropriate time," which would be decided after further deliberations within the military junta, the report said. The report also described Khin Nyunt's tone as conciliatory. "Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is not an enemy," it quoted him as saying.

"In fact, she is the daughter of one of our generals. She is younger than me, and I think of her as a younger sister," he told the TIMES in an interview at the Defence Ministry in Rangoon.

Yesterday, the U.S. State Department said it would welcome a meeting between the Burmese military junta and Nobel Peace Laureate Suu Kyi.

In February, Suu Kyi, who has been under house detention since July 20, 1989, was visited by U.S. Congressman Bill Richardson. The congressman was the first non-family member to visit her, and the National League for Democracy leader communicated her willingness to meet with junta leaders and discuss anything except her exile from Burma.

The Burmese military junta's refusal to respond to her offer drew a sharp rebuke from Washington, which is pressing for political reform in the country. The strongest response from the United States came at the end of last month when the State Department announced U.S. opposition to any move by ASEAN to accord status to Burma which will attend as a guest at next week's ASEAN meeting in Bangkok.

The House of Representatives Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee also approved a resolution urging Burma's military rulers to turn power over to the civilian government elected in 1990, release Suu Kyi and other political prisoners and respect human rights.

The question now is whether Khin Nyunt is really serious about meeting Suu Kyi, or is this just another public relations exercise by the military junta to ease growing criticism at the international level against the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc).

Next Wednesday is the fifth anniversary of Suu Kyi's detention by Slorc and is also the start of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting to which Burma has been invited.

Without doubt, there will be worldwide protests against the Rangoon junta, with world leaders standing by Suu Kyi.

However, the harsh reality in Burma is that the Slorc is firmly in the saddle, bolstered by the arms they have bought from China, certain European countries and Singapore. With the democratic opposition remaining leaderless, with Suu Kyi and others in detention, there is little chance that the junta will collapse.

Slorc leaders have also been courted recently in ASEAN capitals and there's a strong likelihood that the junta will adopt Indonesia's model of government, where the military will remain part of the power equation.

Inviting Burma as a guest to the ASEAN meeting clearly showed a lack of foresight on the part of Thailand, and if Rangoon is admitted into the regional grouping in any status, it would be a serious mistake. ASEAN must not be seen in the international community as a regional grouping that promotes repression in neighbouring Burma through "constructively engaging" the Slorc.

Clearly, the ball now is in ASEAN's court on whether or not the grouping wants to promote democracy in Burma. To this end, in the light of overtures made by Khin Nyunt, ASEAN too can play an important role.

In Bangkok, the Slorc must be told squarely that political rule belongs to the people and the army must be under the control of an elected government and unable to disrupt the constitutional process once in place.

ASEAN must insist that the dialogue between Khin Nyunt and Suu Kyi takes place in an environment of equality between the two, and the talks must be free of coercion. To create such an environment, Slorc must curb itself and free the people as well as their leaders.

It is high time that ASEAN realizes that constructive engagement without engaging the democratic forces in Burma is a dangerous policy that will destroy the country. The economic self-interests of certain ASEAN countries must not be at the expense of the Burmese people.

Cambodian Defense Minister's Comments Reported

BK1307160394 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 9 in Thai 1200 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Cambodian Defense Minister General Tie Banh believes the Thai Government and the military did not support the Khmer Rouge. Speaking in an interview with a correspondent of the Thai Television Channel 9 of the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand, in Cambodia, Gen. Tie Banh also said relations between the Khmer Rouge group and some people in Thailand existed in the form of private contacts. However, those in the

Cambodian Government who do not understand the situation interpreted it as support for the Khmer Rouge by the Thai Government and the military.

On the formation of a provisional government by the Khmer Rouge, the Cambodian defense minister said it was meant to grab the attention of the international community.

Also today the Cambodian National Assembly convened a special session to deliberate an amendment to a draft bill concerning the power of the king in signing laws. Following the passage of a bill by the National Assembly to outlaw the Khmer Rouge group, there was a problem on the enforcement of the law because King Sihanouk did not want to sign the bill. Today Prince Ranariddh, the Cambodian first prime minister, debated in support of the amendment to empower the country's acting leader to sign the bill on behalf of the king. The people's representatives approved the amendment in principle. However, no conclusion could be reached as to whether the acting leader can sign all bills on behalf of the king or sign only on a case-by-case basis. The meeting was adjourned until tomorrow.

Commenting on a planned visit on Friday by members of the Thai House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Cambodian Interior Minister Yu Hokkri said he did not think the group would be able to meet the Thais who are being detained in Cambodia. He said Cambodia considered that the Thai ambassador is already acting as the representative of the Thai Government. The Cambodian interior minister confirmed that there were sufficient grounds to detain the 14 Thais. The results of the investigations should be known in about a week.

Cambodia Assured of Cooperation in Coup Probe

BK1407043494 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jul 94 p 1

[Text] Thailand yesterday reassured Cambodia it would extend its full cooperation in the investigation of the 14 Thai nationals arrested in connection with the failed coup in Phnom Penh earlier this month.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri told reporters Thailand's intentions were made known in an aide memoire given to Roland Eng, Cambodia's ambassador designate to Bangkok.

He said Mr Eng was summoned to the ministry yesterday.

"The Royal Thai Government fully understands the seriousness of the allegations and the necessity to detain the 14 Thais for further interrogation," the memoire read.

"However, upon completion of the interrogation process, the Royal Thai Government requests the Royal Cambodian Government to release them at the earliest opportunity," it added.

An informed source said Mr Eng will be officially accredited to Bangkok next Tuesday, becoming the first official envoy to Bangkok from the coalition government of co-prime ministers Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen.

The memoire also stated Thailand would provide information about the 14 Thais and any other relevant information sought by the Cambodian authorities.

The Cambodian authorities on Monday set up a working group to investigate the 14, separate from the investigation of suspects in the failed coup on July 3, allegedly led by Prince Chakkrapong and former interior minister Sin Song.

In the memoire, Bangkok called on the Cambodian Government to guarantee the safety and living conditions of the 14 and to allow Thai diplomats based in Phnom Penh to visit them "frequently."

Meanwhile, the House Foreign Affairs Committee will pay a one-day visit to Phnom Penh tomorrow to find out first hand about the circumstances in the arrest of the 14 Thais and to call for their early release. .

The official statement from the Thai Embassy in Phnom Penh is that the 14 were arrested at Pochentong Airport on the morning of July 3 which coincided with Prince Chakkrapong's exile from the country after the coup failed.

Committee spokesman Sutham Saengprathum told reporters the committee had been briefed by officials from the Foreign Affairs, Defence, Interior ministries and the National Security Council, and has concluded that the 14 were innocent.

He said 10 were working for a telecommunications company, three were representatives from commercial companies and one was an aide to Pol Lt-Col Adun Bunset, the 15th Thai whose passport was seized at Pochentong on July 3.

Sutham also said the committee has summoned Pol Lt-Gol Adun, a former MP for the New Aspiration Party for Phichit, to testify next Wednesday.

Article Views Cambodian Attitude, Accusation

BK1307123594 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 13 Jul 94 p 19

[Article: "Thailand and the Cambodian Problem - Perspective of a Person Close to the Scene"]

[Text] Faced with recent and numerous domestic and external problems, Thailand is in a position that requires it to be mentally strong and determined. On the external front, several accusations have been leveled against it, particularly over the involvement of 14 Thais in a coup attempt in Cambodia. Some news reports were presented in a way that persuaded readers to believe that there was participation by Thailand, or the Thai Government, in the coup.

In fact, although Thailand, or the Thai Government, became the victim of an accusation, it was not involved in the coup at all. As a Thai, I wish to discuss some points which may help other Thais, particularly the Thai media, to better understand the issue.

Before discussing the accusation about the coup involvement, I want to talk about the accusation of Thailand supporting the Khmer Rouge. This issue is a sore point that Cambodia has used to trouble Thailand, despite Thai assurances that its support for the Khmer Rouge has ceased. Thai support of the Khmer Rouge occurred at a time when other countries, including the United States, were also providing their assistance.

However, after the peace talks, which were followed by the signing of the Paris accord, Thailand—that is, the Thai soldiers and agencies concerned—has strictly complied with the accord. The question which is often asked is: Does Thai action truly match its words?

On the government side, it has stated clearly that it supported the elected Cambodian Government and wished to see national reconciliation in Cambodia. Thailand encouraged dialogue by all Cambodian sides so they could solve their chronic problems and enable economic development to be carried out in earnest.

In any event, Thailand has always regarded the issue as an internal affair of Cambodia, which it, as a neighbor, must respect and never consider interfering with. As for Thai soldiers, they have frequently said that they instantly stopped all contacts with the Khmer Rouge once Thailand declared its support for the Paris agreement. Questions however continue to be asked about whether Thai soldiers really adopted that position.

The answer is that Thai soldiers respect their honor and discipline as much as soldiers of other countries. The Thai military, it should be explained, had instructed its units, particularly those along the Cambodian border, to strictly observe its order. According to the order, fighting between the Cambodian Government and Khmer Rouge is an internal affair of Cambodia and no Thai soldiers will become involved or support any side, particularly the Khmer Rouge, with arms or anything else. If the fighting in Cambodia resulted in the violation of Thai sovereignty (which it did, often, causing damage to Thai property as well as deaths), Thai soldiers would fire warning shots. If firing from Cambodia did not stop, there would be a return of fire with live ammunition. It is clear that there is an order to Thai soldiers at every level prohibiting them from assistance, support, or contact with the Khmer Rouge.

If anyone has a suspicion on this issue, the question is: Do we question the honor and discipline of Thai soldiers? Why do we doubt Thai soldiers but listen to the words of the Cambodians (who could say anything)? Does this mean that we are biased? If we think there might have been low ranking soldiers who disobeyed orders, let us not forget that soldiers have strong discipline. The Thai armed forces will never risk their reputation in this matter. Thailand's prospects are currently healthy and will continue to improve, and therefore it does not make sense to destroy our own reputation.

The United States could announce that it is a big country and is not interested in playing political games in Thailand. Likewise, we could say that Thailand is a big and stable country compared with Cambodia. We would not risk our reputation to play political games or interfere in Cambodia. If the question persists about the possibility of action by low level Thai soldiers, could their action have permanently escaped discovery or exposure.

If such action really took place, it would a clear violation of military orders. If it happened, would not such soldiers be punished to publicize the Thai military's stand. This situation has not occurred. There has never been clear evidence of interference by Thai soldiers or the armed forces in Cambodia. (The arms smuggling from the arms depot was an criminal act of wrong doers who have already been punished.)

There has never been evidence of Thai support for the Khmer Rouge after the Paris accord, only accusations by biased foreign journalists and foreigners. This leads one to feel that the Thai media have fallen for the Cambodian plot. If the Thai media believe that Thai support for the Khmer Rouge is true, why can't they convince themselves that there is no way that Thailand would support the Khmer Rouge? We should be neutral in analyzing this matter and should not be biased, which amounts to being prejudiced against our own country. Do we trust the words of the Cambodians more than the words of fellow Thai people?

Cambodia is a neighbor that Thailand has always helped and shown compassion to. Thailand is now providing Cambodia with agricultural, technical, and other kinds of training assistance. Cambodians fled to Thailand and received humanitarian assistance. Thailand does not deserve what Cambodia has done to it in return. Cambodians should realize that fighting will not solve their disputes and should follow the examples of Laos and Vietnam, who have taken steps develop their countries. Thailand is always ready to help.

Regarding the accusation that Thais took part in the coup in Cambodia, the issue was a plot and innocent Thai people were deceived. These Thais merely knew that they were going to have honest jobs in Cambodia for about 10,000 baht. They were arrested one day after arriving in Cambodia—one day before the coup. It should be easy to surmise that if they were really there to help in the coup, they must be very good because they were arrested the day after their arrival. [sentence as published]

It was evil and cruel of the plotters to deceive the Thais concerned. They concocted their evil plot and even prepared the Thais as scapegoats. It is killing two birds with one shot. As a Thai, I am very sad. It is an issue which should make Cambodians aware that the action of people who wish ill toward both Thailand and Cambodia constitutes the destruction of Cambodia's credibility, its respect, and its future, and amounts to its self-isolation. Regarding Thailand, it will have to learn a lesson and try to prevent any more Thais being lured to be scapegoats of unscrupulous Cambodians. Thailand's patience has its limit.

When Thailand's patience is exhausted, Cambodia will realize that destroying the friendship of a good friend really amounts to its self-destruction.

ASAHI on Regrets for Cambodian Coup Article

BK1407060794 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jul 94 p 6

[Text] The Japanese daily newspaper ASAHI SHIMBUN yesterday expressed "deep regret" to Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri over an article published earlier this month accusing the Thai Army of sending forces to help assassinate Cambodia's co-prime ministers in a coup in Phnom Penh.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Suwit Simasakun spoke to reporters after a 30-minute talk between the Foreign Minister and representatives from the Japanese daily, led by Pacific Bureau chief Osamu Ohwa.

"He expressed deep regret over what has tarnished the dignity of the Thai Government and the Royal Thai Armed Forces," Mr Suwit quoted Ohwa as telling the Foreign Minister.

Ohwa also pledged to take serious care in balancing news stories, the spokesman said.

"We exchanged views very frankly and cordially. I'd like to make our position clear later if necessary. I hope we gain a better understanding about each other," Ohwa told reporters after emerging from the meeting.

"We'll try our best to report news on the basis of fairness and neutrality," he said in answer to a question on what ASAHI planned to do.

The meeting yesterday was the first between ASAHI and Squadron Leader Prasong, who had earlier threatened to ban the daily for its July 5 edition accusing the Thai Army of sending troops to help assassinate co-prime ministers Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen.

The daily previously held three rounds of talks with Mr Suwit, the ministry's director-general of the Press Department.

Ohwa was first summoned by Army Secretary Maj-Gen [Major General] Chaturit Phromsakha na Sakon Nakhon last week to clarify the accusations made in the article.

The daily's confession was the main condition that the minister requires from ASAHI on the story, one ministry source said.

ASAHI carried two articles aimed at balancing the controversial article. They were dated July 7 and 8 respectively under the headlines "Thai Authorities Lodge Protest" and "Cambodian Coup Attempt: Thai Authorities Claim No Involvement."

Despite admitting their regret, the future of the Japanese daily in Thailand remains uncertain.

Vietnamese Ambassador Discusses Relations

BK1307130094 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Jul 94 p A 6

[Interview with Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Le Cong Phung by an unidenfied correspondent; place and date not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] It appears that it's only a matter of time before Vietnam joins the Association of Southeast Asian Countries (Asean). What is Vietnam's own timetable in joining the regional grouping?

[Phung] First, we must be invited by Asean. So far the invitation has not been issued. But through discussions with Asean leaders, we know that all our Asean friends want Vietnam to be a full member of the organization. And our leaders have also stated clearly that we are trying our best to prepare ourselves. We ask the Asean countries to assist us in preparing ourselves so that we can have early access to the organization. Prime Minister of Singapore Goh Chok Tong stated recently that Vietnam could possibly become a member of Asean in the next 18 months. I think if we could be a member of Asean in the next 18 months it would be a good thing. But basically, we have to prepare ourselves economically and politically.

[Correspondent] Would Vietnam be ready in 18 months?

[Phung] It's difficult to answer that question. Three years ago nobody mentioned about Vietnam joining Asean. And nobody predicted that in July 1992 Vietnam would gain observer status in Asean and accede to the Bali treaty. So I'm not in a hurry to say when we will join Asean but I hope that it must be soon because the accession of Vietnam into Asean is in our interest. In cooperating and working shoulder to shoulder with Asean countries, it could help in solving regional problems and promoting security and stability in the whole region.

[Correspondent] How would you describe the current state of relations between Thailand and Vietnam? Six or seven years ago we were still talking about misunderstanding and mistrust between the two countries.

[Phung] I don't want to talk about things that happened six or seven years ago because there were lots of things that you did not agree with and that I did not agree with either. But I can assure you that the present relations between Vietnam and Thailand are very encouraging and there are good prospects ahead.

Politically, Vietnam and Thailand were in a situation marked by conflicts, mistrust and suspicions for quite a long time. But in the last four to five years, there have been great efforts by the governments and peoples of the two countries to forge closer cooperation and friendship between them. I've been here for more than a year and received great assistance and support from the Thai Government and officials.

I have received very warm welcome from the Thai people in general because I have had a chance to travel a lot around the country. But as a matter of fact, I can tell you that sometimes I feel uneasy because the tempo of the development of the relations is not as quick as I would like to see and my term here is only three years. I want it to be quicker. There are some factors that are slowing down the process.

[Correspondent] What are the factors?

[Phung] I talk about slowing down because I personally want the development to be much quicker. But the process, the ways of thinking, the bureaucrats, not only on the part of Vietnam but also Thailand are factors that are slowing down the development. The political will of the people and the governments of the two countries is there. However, I realize that with many years of mistrust and confrontations we cannot build complete, satisfactory confidence and mutual understanding and trust in one or two years. It takes some time.

[Correspondent] There were expectations that the lifting of the US embargo would open the door to huge foreign investment into Vietnam. Is that happening now?

[Phung] Actually, before the lifting of the US embargo, foreign investment had already been on the rise. In the last two years with the easing of the embargo, conditions have improved for foreign investments not only for Vietnamese companies and the government but also for US companies. Besides this, conditions have also been better for other companies and other foreign countries wanting to have economic cooperation with Vietnam.

[Correspondent] What about investment from Thailand?

[Phung] The Thai private sector is keen on investing in Vietnam with the majority of companies having the sincerity and goodwill to work and do business there, on the one hand for their own benefit and on the other to help with the Vietnamese economic development. The interests of both the Vietnamese and Thai people would be served. In the past two years especially in 1993 and 1994, big groups and large Thai companies have made their way to Vietnam. With the lifting of the US embargo I personally think the prospect of investment and economic cooperation between Thailand and Vietnam will be very bright.

[Correspondent] Which sector in Vietnam has generated the most interest from foreign investors?

[Phung] There are many sectors that need foreign investments. But as far as I see, the best areas are the oil and gas sectors, hotel services, infrastructure, natural resources exploitation, agriculture and sea products processing, industrial zones and export processing zones. I think these areas also attract a lot of interest from the Thai private sector.

[Correspondent] The American embargo is now gone and Vietnam and the US have agreed to set up liaison offices in each other's country. Can we expect to see a diplomatic normalization in the near future?

[Phung] The lifting of the US embargo is the landmark in relations between Vietnam and the United States. The landmark means that the confrontation and conflict between Vietnam and the US has been finally put to an end with the two countries now striving for better relations which would ultimately lead to normalization.

The Vietnamese people and the government very much welcome the decision by President Bill Clinton in lifting the embargo against Vietnam. That decision not only meets the aspirations of the Vietnamese people but also meets the aspirations of the majority of people in America.

The lifting of the embargo also facilitates favourable conditions for the two countries to develop relations in various aspects—politically, economically and other aspects as well. We have agreed with the US that the two countries will establish liaison offices in the capital of each country. There remain some technical matters that the two countries have to solve before the offices are actually set up.

We look at the facts optimistically—the two states recognizing each other's sovereignty and respecting each other. We can assume that normal relations exist between Hanoi and Washington. However, formal normalization takes some time.

We cannot have that before the setting up of the liaison offices in Hanoi and Washington. The two offices will have to process the steps that need to be taken before the normalization of relations between Vietnam and United States takes place. And we are sure that the US is trying its best. The Vietnamese government too is trying its best for an early normalization.

[Correspondent] But as things stand now is it realistic to expect the normalization to take place by the end of the year?

[Phung] That depends on a lot of issues which will have to be resolved. And I think it mostly depends on internal matters of the United States.

[Correspondent] Not Vietnam's?

[Phung] Vietnam is ready all the time.

[Correspondent] As Vietnam continues to liberalize its economy, there must be concerns among the Vietnamese authorities of possible political dissension among Vietnamese people as they become economically better off. It's natural to expect them to make a louder demand for a bigger say in politics. How do you juggle between socialism and capitalism?

[Phung] The renovation of the economy and the political structure of Vietnam is based on the demand of the entire Vietnamese people and on the reality of the Vietnamese economy. And the renovation of Vietnam also complies with universal trends and the prevailing situation in the region. We have in the past four years achieved encouraging results in economic development.

We are very happy that more and more Vietnamese people are becoming richer and enjoy better lives because the renovation of the party and the government is the rebirth of the entire people. We are not worried about the political requirements of the wealthy people in the next two or three years but we are concerned about how to maintain the tempo of economic development.

Every country has its own way of development. The renovation decided by our party and government is based on the actual situation of Vietnam. We cannot adopt the same ways and steps as other countries do because the situations are different.

Our people accept the party's leadership. The party has led them to win back independence and bring freedom to the country and in the past six years the party has led the whole country to gain economic development, economic interest and the increase of living standard. I am sure that our people will continue to support the policy of renovation of the party and the government. Of course, everywhere in the world there are some different political opinions, different requirements on social matters, political matters but that is not the majority of the Vietnamese people.

There might be some voices here and there. You can listen to them and see what you have done is correct or not. We need to have some different voices in the society and so you need to listen to the different voices.

[Correspondent] Is there any conservative force within the Vietnamese leadership which may want to put a stop to the move towards capitalism?

[Phung] There are different political ideas and opinions in one country. In Vietnam it is the same. But the policy of economic renovation, domestic matters and foreign affairs have been decided by the entire leadership, by the whole party and government. There might be some different opinions on the steps and pace of the development. But there is no desire to put a stop to the policy that we have adopted.

[Correspondent] What do you think Vietnam will be by the year 2000?

[Phung] It's very difficult to predict. But I'm sure in the year 2000 the economy of Vietnam will be very much more developed and that people's life will be better compared to that of 1994.

We hope to catch up with our neighbours. We know we are still far behind our neighbours in the Asean countries. But at least if we try our best, more positive factors will come by the year 2000. And hopefully, we can narrow the gap of the economic development level between Vietnam and the Asean countries. And I'm sure that by the year 2000, Vietnam will be a much more effective partner in cooperating with Thailand and other Asean countries.

Commerce Minister on Rejected Italian Plane Deal

BK1407060494 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jul 94 p 3

[Text] The Defence Ministry decision to reject a 3,400 million baht deal with Italy to buy six G-222 medium transport planes has come as a real surprise to Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon.

"I was disappointed. The Ministry of Defence should have examined the case thoroughly before making a decision," he said.

Air Force Commander-in-Chief M.R. Siriphong Thongyai said yesterday the Air Force, as the agency which sought the acquisition through the Defence Ministry, could not sign the contract to buy the planes until it obtained the right price for spare parts.

He said the price quoted by the Italian firm was too high.

Mr Uthai said the abrupt change of mind had been costly for the Commerce Ministry. It had to prepare the negotiations and bear the associated costs such as travelling expenses.

He said the case should serve as a warning to other agencies not to jump to conclusions before entering an agreement.

The minister said the Finance Ministry signed a memorandum of understanding with the supplier, Alinia, on April 21 in Italy.

He said the change of mind by the Air Force had ruined the country's credibility.

Under the original deal, Alinia was to exchange the aircraft for frozen chicken, rubber, cassava starch, ceramics, toys, sports shoes, plastic and rubber gloves worth 700 million baht or 20 per cent of the value of the aircraft.

The purchase period was to last 30 months, the same as the payment period for the aircraft. Italy later placed additional orders with Thailand for rice, garments and frozen seafood.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] M.R. Siriphong said he would like to disclose the cost of the spare parts but the issue had not yet been settled and there were still some differences.

The air force commander asked the company to lower the cost as they disadvantaged Thailand.

He said the Air Force would be fair in dealing with the problem. ACM M.R. Siriphong said last Tuesday he had ordered air force staff to speed up talks with the company on the price of the spare parts.

Japan Aids Setting Up of Patent Center

BK1307144494 Bangkok PHUCHATKAN in Thai 12 Jul 94 p 3

[Text] Japan is donating 120 million baht to Thailand to set up a patent information center. The donation is part of a five-year technical cooperation project which will speed up checks and registration of patents and transform Thailand into an intellectual property center for Indochina and ASEAN. Construction of the center will begin in April next year.

Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit said yesterday, after receiving the Japanese specialist for the technical cooperation project, that to date Japan has donated 120 million baht to set up the center. The Thai Government has approved 20-30 million baht for the center.

The project will receive Japanese assistance for five years, from 1995-1999. The construction will begin in April

1995. Installation of equipment and training of personnel will be carried out in the first three years, while trial services will be carried out in the last two years.

Churin said that, once completed, the project will have a computer system, which will speed up handling of patent requests and patent checks. The current process is time consuming because checks have to be made worldwide. About 2,500 requests for patent registration are now filed in Thailand a year, and this number increases by 15 percent annually.

According to Churin, the private and the industrial sectors, such as the textile, jewelry, and electronic industries, will be able to use the information service of the Commerce Ministry Ministry. The center will also turn Thailand into a center for intellectual property in Indochina and ASEAN and the prevention of violations by those countries.

Churin also noted that of three bills—a patent bill, a bill on the protection of plant species and a bill on product origins—being drafted by the Intellectual Property Department, the plant species bill will be finalized on 12 July.

Ministry Plans Law To Protect New Plants, IPR

BK1307121294 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Jul 94 p B1

[Text] The Commerce Ministry has drafted a special law on the protection of new plant varieties and other intellectual property. The ministry will hold a public hearing before submitting the draft to the Cabinet, according to Churin Laksanawisit, Deputy Commerce Minister.

The draft law is aimed at protecting the rights of those who breed new plants or produce other original products. The patent will last a period of 20 years.

Various conditions will have to be met to hold a new patent for plants. On the sexual (using seeds) method, new varieties must be a novelty, and yield a uniform product over an extended period of time. For the asexual methods (using no seeds in breeding), the varieties must be inventive and help increase productivity in the agricultural sector.

The Commerce Ministry will hold three public hearings which are scheduled for July 15, 1994. Thereafter, the findings will be incorporated into the draft and submitted to the cabinet and parliament for approval.

Churin believes that the new law, if introduced, will lead to a large amount of newly developed plants which will increase production, reduce costs, and therefore increase agricultural exports. Thus giving all round added benefits to the consumer while preventing foreigners from copying original Thai plants. The proposed law is to meet the obligations under General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

Two other laws will also be drafted to provide protection for 'sub-patents' such as brandnames, and original products like wine.

Editorial on Amnuai's Future as Politician

BK1407012894 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Jul 94 p 4

[Editorial: "Amnuai Starting Off on the Wrong Foot"]

[Text] The resignation last Friday of Amnuai Wirawan as deputy prime minister and deputy leader of the New Aspiration Party was not unexpected, although it might have caught several people off-guard because it came so soon. In a written statement issued the day he announced his departure, Mr Amnuai said he intended to set up a political party which would offer the people an "alternative" and which could contribute constructively to the country. Above all, he declared that his party would be one in which the people could place their trust and confidence.

It is psychologically encouraging to hear from someone with the qualifications and potential to take the helm of our ship of state in the future about how much he cares for the people at a time when their faith in the existing parties is wearing thin and hope is giving way to despair. Yet, Mr Amnuai's statement sounds similar to the rhetoric previously announced by other politicians when they quit one party to form another.

In the past five years, several new parties have entered Thailand's political arena. Among them are the Samakkhi Tham Party headed by Narong Wongwan, the New Aspiration Party [NAP] led by Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and the Chat Phatthana Party consisting largely of breakaway members of Chat Thai and Athit Urairat's Seritham Party. A few of them have become politically successful, namely NAP and Chat Phatthana, because they were able to win a substantial number of parliamentary seats in the last general election.

Others have been less successful, notably the Samakkhi Tham Party which opted out of the election and whose members defected en masse to other parties due to its close association with leaders of the infamous National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC). Yet, these parties are essentially the same as their predecessor which are hopeless and unreliable. At best, they merely represent "old wine in new bottles."

Mr Amnuai may have felt a sense of desperation over the limitations preventing him from carrying out his duty as he wishes. He may also have a genuine desire to make a more constructive contribution towards the country and its people. But the way he is recruiting defectors or old politicians from other parties into his yet-to-be-formed party is no different from that previously employed by the other politicians, which is most disappointing. It also appears to run counter to his good intentions.

If his declaration to form a new "alternative" party has provided a trickle of hope to a despairing electorate yearning for something new and promising, the report that some discredited or "rotten" politicians have been approached to join the party—if proven true—would rob them of that hope just as quickly.

Mr Amnuai may not want to start his party from scratch, probably because he thinks he cannot afford the long wait this would entail to realise his ultimate political ambition. But we had not expected him to be naive enough to resort to the same mistake committed by his predecessors.

A new party does not need to start from scratch. It should also be open to veteran politicians and former MPs. But a screening process must be introduced to ensure that only those who have consistently demonstrated quality, integrity and honesty are accepted. With his good reputation and strong financial backing, it should not be difficult for Mr Amnuai to fill his party with qualified, competent and honest members if he genuinely wishes.

A politician of Mr Amnuai's calibre can always make a constructive contribution to the country without being a prime minister. But it appears that Mr Amnuai might not be content with the role of being just the leader of a new party offering an "alternative" to the people, but which lacks the political clout necessary to pave the way for his ascent to political stardom.

Article Views Race for Post of Police Chief

BK1307115894 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Jul 94 p 4

[Article by a "Special Correspondent": "Race Begins for Police Chief"]

[Text] The incumbent police chief Pol Gen Prathin Santipraphop, is due to retire at the end of September. His successor will have to be named before then by the Police Commission, chaired by Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

As usual, there has been behind-the-scenes lobbying and string-pulling among the candidates and their outside backers. Making an accurate prediction about who will emerge as the new police chief is not simple because the selection process is not straightforward, but is heavily influenced by outside forces.

A candidate which is qualified for the post may abruptly find himself disqualified because "something unpredictable" has happened to him.

Just three months before the expiry of Pol Gen Prathin's term, Pol Gen Phot Bunyachinda, the most senior deputy police director-general, who was one of the candidates for the top police post, was suddenly accused by a company of alleged wrongdoing in the purchase of antiriot gear, in a complaint made to the Prime Minister's Office.

Pol Gen Phot and former police chief Gen Sawat Amonwiwat were responsible for the purchase in 1992.

As standard procedure after a complaint is received, a fact-finding committee was set up by the Police Department to investigate.

Pol Gen Sawat, who is an inspector-general in the Interior Ministry, faces charges of assisting offenders to escape punishment in connection with the Saudi jewellery case. Earlier, he was cleared of alleged corruption in a deal to purchase transport planes for the Police Department and lese majeste charges.

Another senior police officer, Pol Gen Sanong Watthanawarangkun, an adviser to the Police Department, is also under investigation in connection with the Saudi jewellery disappearance.

The complaint against Pol Gen Phot, which comes just as the Police Commission prepares to consider the candidates for police chief, is viewed by critics as a calculated attempt to scuttle his chances of getting appointed.

A police officer under investigation is not entitled to promotion until the probe is over and he is cleared of wrongdoing. Critics point out that by the time the investigation of the case is over, the Police Commission will have already picked a successor to Pol Gen Prathin.

Surprisingly, one week before Pol Gen Phot came under investigation, Pol Lt-Gen Chatchai Chai-arun, the assistant police chief, was placed under investigation for his handling of the maintenance of police armoured vehicles and other equipment worth several million baht while he was commissioner of the Border Patrol Police.

Again, critics pointed out that it was strange that a probe was ordered now for an alleged illegal practice which took place over a year ago. Critics, however, disclosed that Pol Lt-Gen Chatchai brought some of his men from the Border Patrol Police to the Police Department to protest against Interior Minister Chawalit's order to transfer then police chief Pol Gen Sawat to the Interior Ministry last year.

Critics pointed out that Pol Gen Sawat, Pol Gen Sanong and Pol Gen Phot were classmates in Class 13 at the Police Academy, while Pol Lt-Gen Chatchai was a member of Class 14. The four officers were said to be close friends.

Police sources said that with Pol Gen Phot and Pol Gen Sanong under investigation, two candidates are entitled to be chosen to succeed Pol Gen Pratin. They are Pol Gen Winit Charoensiri and Pol Gen Pracha Phromnok, both incumbent deputy police chiefs. Pol Gen Pracha was appointed deputy police chief in June.

Pol Gen Winit is a member of Class 5 at Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy and is due to retire in 1995. Pol Gen Pracha, a member of Class 18 at the Police Academy, is due to retire in 2002. Both are said to be confidants Pol Gen Prathin.

Informed police sources said that Gen Chawalit might wait until a new Police Commission is installed before he calls a meeting of the commission to consider the appointment of the new police chief.

It was Gen Chawalit who engineered the appointment of Pol General Prathin to police chief, so it will not be a surprise if the new police chief is one of his handpicked proteges.

Vietnam

Allegation of Involvement in Coup Rejected

BK1307155494 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 13—'The allegation that Vietnam was involved in the recent failed coup d'etat attempt in Cambodia is a sheer fabrication with ill-intention'.

So said a Foreign Ministry's spokesperson in responce to an ITAR-TASS correspondent about Vietnam's reaction on a news story appeared on the English-language 'CAMBODIA TIMES' weekly, the 10-16 July, 1994 issue, which accused Vietnam of involvement in the recent failed coup d'etat attempt in Cambodia.

The Foreign Ministry's spokesperson said that Vietnam constantly wishes to see Cambodia having peace and stability so that the Cambodian people can build their country and lead a better life. The spokesperson renewed Vietnam's treasure of the consolidation and development of neighbourly friendly relations and cooperation with the Kingdom of Cambodia on the basis of mutual respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of each other without interference into each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, in conformity with the interest of the two peoples as well as of regional peace, stability and cooperation for development.

Commentary Terms Khmer Rouge Government 'Farce'

BK1407090994 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Station commentary by Nguyen Quy: "The Khmer Rouge Farce"]

[Text] It is not surprising to hear news about the Khmer Rouge setting up a so-called provisional government with Khieu Samphan as the premier and several others holding ministerial posts. Attempting to make it legal, the Khmer Rouge blatantly announced that Preah Vihear is the capital of this separate government.

People can easily see, without having to use any intelligence, that this is a political farce and a devious product of the Khmer Rouge designed to counter the important law adopted recently by the Cambodian parliament to outlaw the Khmer Rouge.

By establishing a provisional government, the Khmer Rouge nurtures the hope that foreign countries will provide them with assistance and that they will not be isolated because of the new Cambodian law. One may ask if there are any countries or international organizations at all that still want to defend and protect the astounding criminals who have no land to live on and who are being hunted everywhere? Khmer Rouge troops and personnel are now dispirited and confused. They do not want to die along with their leaders. They tell one another to strive to return to their families in order to receive leniency granted by the Royal Cambodian Government because the law provides such an opportunity for those who defect from the Khmer Rouge and return to the government side.

The fact that the Khmer Rouge set up the so-called provisional government for national union and salvation is aimed at stopping the waves of defection and abandonment by troops and personnel within their ranks. This is a Khmer Rouge tactic aimed at deceiving their followers and persuading them to give up hope for amnesty from the Royal Cambodian Government. However, it is a hopeless effort and a meaningless act, as pointed out by the Phnom Penh authorities. This Khmer Rouge act of setting up a provisional government only exposes their precarious position for the public to see. It also indicates that the Cambodian parliament's law on outlawing the Khmer Rouge is having a great impact and is very effective as far as the Khmer Rouge is concerned.

The Khmer Rouge reaction following the parliament's announcement of the law is not surprising. People can even foresee the possibility of the Khmer Rouge escalating their military activities to occupy more land and massacre civilians. The public is also taking note of the Ministry of Refugees in the so-called provisional government which REUTERS described as an agency that will assume the task of chasing Vietnamese residents from Cambodia. In other words, the Khmer Rouge will escalate its massacre campaign against Vietnamese residents, thereby increasing hostility between Cambodian and Vietnamese peoples.

We should anticipate this condition in order to heighten vigilance to cope with the upcoming complicated developments in the Cambodian situation.

Further Comment on Khmer Rouge

BK1307130694 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Khmer Rouge Radio on 11 July reported that they have set up a so-called interim government headed by Khieu Samphan, which is headquartered in Preah Vihear Province of Cambodia. In this connection, Voice of Vietnam has this to say:

What is called by the Khmer Rouge the interim government also includes defense ministry, foreign ministry, ministry of migration. Besides the role of prime minister of what so-called interim government of the Alliance of National Salvation, Khieu Samphan also holds the post of minister of the national army. Chan Youran, Khmer Rouge's former ambassador to China, will be deputy prime minister and foreign minister. This is another move of the Khmer Rouge to beef up the moral of their soldiers and officials in face of the state of being outlawed by the Cambodian Parliament.

The British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC, held that this is a meaningless challenge by the Khmer Rouge. Cambodian officials said by so doing the Khmer Rouge attempted to convince their supporters not to trust the lenient policy of the Phnom Penh government.

The Cambodian Government spokesman, Mr. Sok An, pointed out the Khmer Rouge's attempt to instigate the breakaway movement which runs counter to the country's Constitution. He said: Whatever it is, it does not matter because the Khmer Rouge, who has been outlawed, could gain no support from other governments.

In his article, King Norodom Sihanouk pointed out the lasting and stable peace is a question of primary importance for Cambodia at the moment. To achieve this goal it is necessary to solve the Khmer Rouge issue. This is really a hard question. He denounced the Khmer Rouge's crime against the Cambodian people and their sabotage of peaceful reconstruction of the country.

By declaring the establishment of the so-called the interim government, the Khmer Rouge will aim at nothing but opposing the Cambodian government, the country's cause for national reconstruction, and at the same time, create instability in the war-torn country.

Embassy Protests Killing of Family in Cambodia

BK1307152194 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 13—The Vietnamese Embassy in Cambodia today sent a note to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Ministry of the Interior of Cambodia and the UN Human Right Center in connection with the recent killing of five Vietnamese residents in Cambodia.

The note said while shipping dried fish on July 3 from the Tonle Sap Lake to Kompong Chhnang Province, a five-member Vietnamese overseas family, was all shot dead by an armed group which later threw away the dead bodies into to lake and ran away with the victims' assets.

The Vietnamese Embassy vehemently protested against the cruelty and urgently requested Cambodian concerned agencies to investigate the crime and severely punish the killers in order to defend Vietnamese residents in Cambodia.

Spokesman Views Expected ASEAN Accession

BK1407105294 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Vietnam will hold talks on its early accession to the ASEAN during the period when ASEAN foreign ministers meet in Bangkok this month. A spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday that Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and his ASEAN counterparts will discuss measures to strengthen comprehensive cooperation relations, especially preparations for Vietnam's accession to the Association.

Reports from Manila said the same day that Philippine President Fidel Ramos said it is obvious that Vietnam will be the seventh member of the Association. Vietnam will be the third among the applicant countries to be admitted to the ASEAN.

Jan-Jun Rice Exports Increase Eight Percent

BK1407084394 Hanoi VNA in English 0621 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 14—In June Vietnam exported over 120,000 tonnes of rice, bringing to 950,000 tonnes of rice exported in the first six months of this year, up by 8 per cent over the same period last year.

The Food Corporation No. 2 (Vinafood) in south Vietnam accounted for 200,500 tonnes, An Giang Province in the Mekong Delta, 140,000 tonnes and Ho Chi Minh City, over 100,000 tonnes.

Food trading enterprises purchased in half a year 1,880,000 tonnes of paddy out of over 11.6 million tonnes harvested from the winter-spring crop, including 2.5 million tonnes of commercial food crops.

This year Vietnam plans to exported from 1.8-2 million tonnes of rice. [sentence as received]

72,409 People Get Jobs in Hi Chi Minh City

BK1307151894 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Over the first six months of the year, Ho Chi Minh City has found jobs for 72,409 people—an increase of 2.7 percent over the same period last year—with more than 80 precent having stable jobs. It is especially noted that vocational training and job placement carried out in accordance with requirements have been on the increase. Vocational training has helped create employment for 35,000 people or 50 percent of the total number of people who have been given jobs so far.

In a bid to resolve unemployment, Ho Chi Minh City has concentrated on finding jobs for discharged soldiers and those people belonging to poor families or families entitled to benefit policies. Twenty percent of the number of discharged soldiers have received employment over the first six months of the year.

NHAN DAN Views Decision on Role as Party Paper

BK1407142194 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] The party Central Committee secretary recently issued a decision on the functions and duties of the party newspaper [NHAN DAN]. The decision evaluates the activities of the newspaper and puts forth guidelines for renovating the newspaper and improving its quality so it can be worthy of being a political and ideological banner of the party on our country's media front and a bridge that helps maintain daily communications between the party and the state on one side and the public at large on the other, as defined in the decision. This is an important political event in the life of the party newspaper. It is also of political significance for our country's media front.

On this occasion, NHAN DAN today runs an editorial entitled: Glorious and Onerous Duty. The editorial says:

Entrusted with this glorious and onerous duty, workers of the party newspaper are duty bound to struggle to raise themselves up to the level required of them by their duties. Workers of the party newspaper must strive to steel themselves so as to become firm politically, to have vast knowledge, to profoundly understand the country's everyday life and the world situation, to be skilled professionally, and to have pure professional morals. This is to meet the present and long-term requirements of the revolutionary undertaking; these are the minimum requirements. The party Central Committee Secretariat has advised party newspaper workers to surge forward to fulfill their duties toward the party, the state, and the people.

Melanesian Spearhead Group Meets

BK1107082594 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 11 Jul 94

[Text] The eighth summit conference of the Melanesian Spearhead Group [MSG] has started in Auki in the Solomon Islands. The Spearhead Group links Papua New Guinea [PNG], Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and New Caledonia's pro-independence movement, the FLNKS [Kanaka Socialist National Liberation Front]. High on the agenda are trade and economic matters, an overview of regional political developments, including the Bougainville conflict, technical and cultural developments, and a review of MSG activities.

The FLNKS vice chairman, (Wakwaikyan) is leading the delegation after the front's president, Paul Neaoutyine, was forced to withdraw because of the death of a relative. Other leaders attending the summit are the prime ministers of Solomons Islands, Francis Billy Hilly; PNG, Paias Wingti; and Vanuatu, Maxime Carlot Korman. Fiji, which has observer status, is represented by Agriculture and Fisheries Minister Ratu Ovini Bokini.

PNG's prime minister says he'll make an important announcement on resolving the six-year-old Bougainville conflict to the MSG summit later today. South Pacific correspondent Erina Reddan reports:

[Begin Reddan recording] PNG officials are angered over a media report that their prime minister, Paias Wingti, has offered to talk with Bougainville secessionist leaders in the capital, Honiara, before leaving Solomon Islands. [Words indistinct] even has nothing to say. Mr. Wingti says there is an important announcement, but he'll make it this afternoon. Secessionist representatives say their leaders will reject the offer if it's made, saying such high-level talks are inappropriate at this stage. [end recording]

Australia

Minister Says Overseas Trade Open to All

BK1307133194 Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 22 Jun 94 p 34

[Article by Peter Cook, federal minister for industry]

[Text] Globalisation is a term with which Australian companies are becoming increasingly familiar. While technological advances in telecommunications and transport have effectively reduced the significance of physical distance, international deregulation and more open trade policies have reduced economic distance—adding up to more interlinkages between countries—or globalisation.

Opportunities for small and medium enterprises [SME] in world markets are developing rapidly as big business no longer has a monopoly on doing business outside national boundaries. Growing demand for specialised products and outsourcing by large companies have also increased the range of SME activities.

The successful conclusion of GATT's Uruguay round has stimulated opportunities by lowering barriers to trade. SMEs are responding to these opportunities and are developing globalisation strategies to achieve and maintain competitiveness. This activity is not limited to the export of products or services, but includes the sourcing, development, production and distribution of products and services.

Even so, only a relatively small proportion, about 10 percent of manufacturers and as little as 2 percent of service companies, are exporters. Given the right planning and a strong commitment, more Australian SMEs could succeed overseas, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region.

There is no doubt Australian global SMEs face challenges in doing so. They must establish credibility overseas, access finance for an export push, develop the necessary management skills.

In the recent White Paper, Working Nation, the Government announced a range of initiatives to give the global SMEs the support they need to meet these challenges.

Changes to Government purchasing policy will mean SME "endorsed suppliers" will have significant Government credentials to promote their products overseas.

Innovation is a vital element of any ongoing strategy for globalisation because new products and processes provide companies with a competitive edge. Government is encouraging innovation in SMEs through increased access to the R&D tax concession.

Australia To Export Aluminum to Russia

LD1307125194 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0830 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Australia is about to clinch an aluminum export deal with Russia worth more than 200 million [Australian] dollars a year. Foreign Minister Gareth Evans says the agreement would see Australian companies develop port facilities in the Russian Far East. That would in turn allow Australia to become Russia's major source of alumina, in effect linking raw materials from the world's biggest alumina exporters to the world's biggest aluminum smelting industries.

Senator Evans has been in Moscow discussing the deal with Russian officials and he told Michael Brissenden this could become one of the biggest export deals yet signed on the rapidly developing Russian market

[Begin Evans recording] It's a classic example of Australian-Russian linkage through the Asia-Pacific connection, the Russian Far East. This is Australia doing what it has been doing better than just about anyone else in the world for the last few decades, that's supplying low-cost commodities to a Russian industry that has the capacity to use those commodities, or that commodity, in a way which will generate hard currency for it and which makes an awful lot of economic sense. So you've got a classic marriage of situation here and it's probably the first investment proposal of its kind that has really had legs, going for it, on all fronts in that respect. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Government Said Breaking Waste Agreement

BK1007133594 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 1100 GMT 10 Jul 94

[Text] The Greenpeace Environmental Organization says the Australian Government is deliberately misleading the international community and Australians about its commitment to the Basel Convention banning the export of hazardous waste.

Greenpeace says Australia's position on the Basel Convention became clear at the end of the second negotiating session for a South Pacific convention which would ban hazardous waste being imported into the region. Greenpeace claims Australian officials at the Suva meeting, which ended on Friday [8 July], opposed any reference to the Basel agreement. It was claimed Australia tried to restrict any commitment to a ban on hazardous waste exports to the South Pacific only. Greenpeace says this goes against the Basel Convention which bans hazardous waste trade between member countries of the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development, OECD, and nonmembers.

New Zealand

Early General Election Likely After Resignation

LD1407085994 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] New Zealand faces the prospect of an early general election after the sudden resignation of the former Finance Minister Ruth Richardson. Her resignation from politics means the National Party government has had its slim majority of two cut to one. Prime Minister Jim Bolger said he would discuss with his caucus whether to hold a by-election in Ms Richardson's seat or a general election. The National Party retained power last November with 50 of the parliament's 99 seats but was only able to have a majority when the opposition Labour Party allowed one of its members to become speaker. Even so the government has narrowly held power through several crucial votes with the use of the casting vote of the chairman of committees. Ms Richardson held her Canterbury seat of Selwyn by 900 votes in the last election and was dumped as New Zealand's first woman finance minister in a move by Mr. Bolger to adopt a more consensus style of government. In a general election, if a general election is held, it will be under a completely new system with proportional representation replacing the tradiotional first past the post system.

Papua New Guinea

Deputy Prime Minister on Shift in PNG Aid

BK1307134694 Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 28 Jun 94 p 3

[By foreign affairs writer Cameron Stewart in Port Moresby]

[Text] The Papua New Guinea [PNG] Cabinet has given the go-ahead for sweeping changes to Australia's $300 million a year aid program despite claims by PNG Deputy Prime Minister, Sir Julius Chan, that the changes will erode PNG's independence.

The prime minister, Mr. Wingti, told THE AUSTRALIAN that the PNG Cabinet had approved joint Australian-PNG proposals on how to implement the historic shift from direct Australian Budget support to project aid.

But Sir Julius, who is also foreign minister, has again hit out at Australia, which he said was "toying" with PNG's independence by pursuing the shift to project aid.

Sir Julius said that while PNG was grateful for Australia's $300 million annual assistance to his country, the shift to project aid was "stupid" and would potentially distort PNG's development priorities because Australia rather than PNG would effectively determine where the aid money was spent.

"We are a recipient, beggars can't be choosers, and if that's the way the Australian Government wants to go, it doesn't really matter whether that's the way we want to go," he said.

Asked whether PNG's independence would be eroded by changes to the aid program, Sir Julius said: "If I tell you anything else I'll be lying to you, we've never been toyed around with before ... now we are answerable to the gods, the bureaucrats".

That was never the way Australia and PNG parted. They parted in absolute trust with good faith. So, yes, it is a retrograde step for the Australians to now come back and impose a system similar to others ... because we don't have a particular relationship with another country as Australia.

"To apply a new system, to change from one concept to another after so many years after independence just seems stupid to me."

But Mr. Wingti denied Sir Julius's claim that the gradual move to project aid rather than Budget support had compromised PNG's independence.

"I don't think so," Mr. Wingti said "I mean, the Australian people, it's their money, they've been providing aid to this country. It's a two-way affair, the Government here really sets the priorities, the priorities are not set by the Australian Government ... we are quite happy we set the priorities."

Asked whether he favoured the shift from Budget to project aid, Mr. Wingti said: "Look we've got to go with change, we can't go back, it's really up to the Government to use those funds wisely."

The PNG aid program—which soaks up a quarter of Australia's total aid Budget—would only become an irritant in the bilateral relationship with Australia if Canberra were setting the priorities, but this was not happening, Mr. Wingti said.

Despite Sir Julius's reservations, the PNG Cabinet recently approved joint studies to identify the key priority areas of the new project, or tied, aid program, which is to be phased in to replace Budget support entirely by the 2000.

The key priority areas will be education, health, infrastructure, law and order, renewable resources, and the private sector.

The private sector aid proposals are the only element of the new aid program yet to be considered by PNG's Cabinet.

Mr. Wingti said his Government was pressing for more Australian aid dollars to be spent on infrastructure to improve the country's decaying road and transport system.

Sir Julius, who was the architect of the Budget support program when PNG gained independence in 1975, said the shift from Budget support to project aid was a backward step for PNG because it interfered with its priorities.

"It is encroaching into our priorities a little, on how we want to interpret that sovereignty and independence," he said.

"I am big enough to accept that as a recipient we have just got to adjust to the donor's conditions. I'm only saying that it is a retrograde step."

Wingti Flags Key Role for Australia

BK1307144294 Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 27 Jun 94 p 2

[By foreign affairs writer Cameron Stewart in Port Moresby]

[Text] The prime minister of Papua New Guinea [PNG], Mr. Wingti, has foreshadowed a central role for Australia in supporting any peace agreement between the warring factions on strife-torn Bougainville.

In an interview with THE AUSTRALIAN in Port Moresby, Mr. Wingti said he believed Australia now had a "very important" part to play in the peace process—the strongest indication yet that PNG will accept Australia's offer to become a central player in helping resolve the conflict.

"In discussions that we are having with the different factions on Bougainville if we came to some kind of firm arrangements then Australia's role could be very important in terms of supporting and providing logistic support for a peace settlement and so forth," Mr. Wingti said.

Australia has already offered to help facilitate and host peace talks between the rebel Bougainville Revolutionary Army [BRA] and the PNG Government. The Federal Government has also offered logistic support for a proposed regional monitoring force on Bougainville using troops from several South Pacific nations.

In addition, the Government has pledged greater financial assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction on Bougainville.

But Australia has avoided becoming directly involved in the conflict on the grounds that it is an internal matter for the PNG Government.

Mr. Wingti said he supported the current Australian position. He said Australia could play an important role in supporting a peace agreement but he indicated it would not become a negotiator in peace talks.

"Australia has done the right thing according to us. It is prepared to assist if requested," he said. "It took a long time to build up Bougainville, it was destroyed in four years and it's going to take a long time to rebuild it."

Mr. Wingti said he could see no role for Australian troops in any future peace monitoring force on Bougainville.

He said he did not know when talks would resume between the PNG Government and the BRA. Preliminary talks had been scheduled to take place in Honiara last week but were delayed because of disagreement about the seniority of the delegates. Australia has suggested that peace talks be held in Cairns.

PNG's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Sir Julius Chan, said Australia could not cut itself off from the Bougainville crisis entirely. "I do not think you can just simply cut yourself off because you are reacting to possible international criticism by involving yourself. The fact of the matter is we're very much part of the region and you just can't cut yourself off from it," he told THE AUSTRALIAN.

He criticized certain aspects of Australia's approach to the conflict suggesting it might have been resolved sooner if Australia had offered more logistic support to PNG. "If we had more logistic support we could have reached a better conclusion to the Bougainville situation," Sir Julius said. Sir Julius also described as "stupid" the conditions which Australia had attached to the use of four army helicopters which it donated to PNG in 1989.

The conditions state that the helicopters, which have been used in Bougainville, must be used for troop transportation or for humanitarian purposes and cannot be fitted out as gunships. "They (Australia) are always worried about the use of the Iroquois (helicopters). How can you impose a condition when you are flying for healthcare and health services to relieve some wounded people and you are shot at—what do you do, put the Australian flag up on a helicopter and say now look, this is an Australian machine, we can't mount a rifle there and you can't use it for any other purpose apart from transporting troops. That's stupid," Sir Julius said.

A recent report on the visit of an Australian parliamentary delegation to Bougainville concluded that the military solution to the five-year civil war was now impossible and urged all parties to set a timetable for a peace process.

Mr. Wingti has welcomed the report and has moved to adopt a more conciliatory approach to the Bougainville problem.

'Rare Ray of Hope' in Bougainville Conflict

BK1407100794 Suva ISLANDS BUSINESS PACIFIC in English Jul 94 p 13

[Article from the "We Say" section: "It's time to give peace a real chance"]

[Text] After months of dismal news from Bougainville a rare ray of hope: last month in the Solomon Islands capital, Honiara, Papua New Guinea began secret talks with Bougainville interim government figures. They hope to be able to end a five-year war believed to have caused 3,000 deaths.

Talks which opened in Honiara in the first week of June ended three years of no direct communication between the Papua New Guinea government and the Bougainville Revolutionary Army. The latter have been fighting for independence since 1988. However, talks set for the weekend of June 18-19 were reported to have been suspended and there was no explanation why.

But a time for optimism about a settlement of the horrible Bougainville situation is overdue. There are indications that a real advance to end it is being made. Papua New Guinea's prime minister, Paias Wingti, has announced the establishment of a commission to investigate the murders, torture and other gross abuses that the rebel and government sides have perpetrated. The idea for a peace force of troops from Tonga, Fiji, and Vanuatu advanced by the foreign minister, Sir Julius Chan, is being picked up by the government after a cold reception for it initially. It has qualified support from the countries who would supply men.

On the Bougainville side, the talks in Honiara involved people associated with Francis Ona, a key rebel figure. They are said to have stressed that they could not speak for the rebels, but certainly a significant section of them. The meetings with Papua New Guinea are intended to set the stage for a pan-Bougainville meeting at which everyone would meet with Papua New Guinea and debate the way of restoring Bougainville to peace and prosperity. Whether or not it remains a part of the state of Papua New Guinea is still a critical question.

If a peace force is to go to Bougainville it is vital that it be received there with the complete trust and confidence of all Bougainville's people. Bougainville is a tragedy. The killing of Tongan, Fijian and ni-Vanuatu peacekeepers by undisciplined rebel fighters would vastly heighten that tragedy.

The force would be a buffer between Bougainville's people and the Papua New Guinea army whose record in Bougainville is not admirable. Reasons for this have as much to do with ineffective and shilly-shallying political direction from Port Moresby as with some of its own conduct in the field.

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